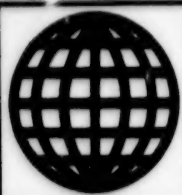


JPRS-SEA-89-039
29 DECEMBER 1989



**FOREIGN
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JPRS Report

East Asia

Southeast Asia

East Asia Southeast Asia

JPRS-SEA-89-039

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Suharto Assures Preservation of Tropical Forest

90OG0070A Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian
6 Nov 89 p 1

[Excerpts] President Suharto has given assurances that Indonesia will continue to make every effort to preserve its tropical forests, both in the interests of Indonesia itself and as the earth's lungs.

In an 80-minute discussion with Prince Charles, the crown prince of the United Kingdom, held Saturday [4 November] at the Merdeka Palace, President Suharto also revealed that one third of Indonesia's 124 million hectares of forest are being preserved as protected forest which cannot be disturbed. [passage omitted]

The Utilization of Preservation

President Suharto explained to Prince Charles, in great detail, that 72 million hectares of Indonesia's 124 million hectares of land are productive forest; and that the Indonesian Selected Cutting system (TPI), which cuts down only those trees with a minimum diameter of 50 centimeters, is used.

Actually, 72 million cubic meters can be cut every year since 1 cubic meter per hectare is the limit of what can be used and still maintain forest preservation. However, Indonesia is now using or cutting down only about 30 million cubic meters of timber, less than half of the protected forest.

The present forestry data show that trees are now being felled on a rotating schedule of 20 to 40 years and replacement trees will grow to be very big.

Minister and State Secretary Moerdiono said that President Suharto convinced Prince Charles that the world does not need to be concerned about the decreasing function of the forests as the earth's lungs. Indonesia has long been aware of its responsibility towards the well-being of all of mankind. [passage omitted]

Suharto Urges Moslem Leaders To Engage in National Development

90OG0090A Jakarta ANGKATAN BERSENJATA in Indonesian 27 Nov 89 pp 1, 9

[Text] Jakarta, (AB)—President Suharto hopes that religious leaders and Moslem scholars will increase their participation and role in the development of our nation, which at the present time is in the final phase of the first long term development program. He said: "The years ahead of us will be years for the completion of the basic framework for our development, so that we will be able to begin the process of laying the foundations."

He said that the completion of the basic framework of religious life also requires the attention of all of us. In many developing countries religion has often been a source of problems and disturbances in laying the foundations for development.

The president expressed this hope when he opened the 28th Congress of the Nahdatul Ulama [NU—Moslem scholars group], the 12th Congress of the Nahdatul Ulama Women's Organization, and the 10th Congress of the Nahdatul Ulama Young Women's Organization, held at the Al Munawir Krapyak Center in Yogyakarta on 25 November. The opening of the three meetings was marked by President Suharto's striking a ceremonial drum. He was accompanied by the minister of religion, the governor of Yogyakarta, the general chairman of the Executive Committee of the NU Advisory Council, the chairperson of the NU Women's Organization, and the chairperson of the NU Young Women's Organization.

The chief of state emphasized that during the present period of development it very often happens that the changes taking place around us occur far more quickly than we expect. If Moslem scholars and religious leaders do not pay attention, our people will move ahead without any directions.

To resolve this problem, Moslem scholars and religious leaders need to be sensitive to the challenges facing our people at this time. He said: "Let us concentrate our attention on the development of a community with a religious outlook so that it will be a community with a message. That is, it will hold fast to its religion, will have a broad outlook, and will be attentive to the challenges of its time and its major responsibilities for the benefit of the nation."

He continued that we Indonesians, who have the principle of belief in God in the Pancasila [five founding principles of the nation], regard our religious feelings as a source of strength in our efforts to make a success of our national development program in implementing the Pancasila.

Same Position

According to the president, with the Pancasila as the philosophical foundation of our country, we do not establish one religion as a state religion. He stated: "In our national life all religions have the same position. This does not mean that our country does not care about religious life. Indeed, and on the contrary, our country has a great interest in the development of a splendid, healthy, and dynamic religious life."

The president said that history teaches that among our forebears who conceived of the Pancasila as the philosophical foundation of our country, contained in the preamble to the Constitution of 1945, there were national leaders from the NU. History also notes that the NU was a leader in defining the Pancasila as the single founding principle of our life as a society, as a nation, and as a country. The president added: "This definition was made without any hesitation and preceded other religious organizations and groups."

The president continued that the NU also declared that in the eyes of the Islamic community the Republic of Indonesia, based on the Pancasila and the Constitution

of 1945, is now in its definitive and final form. For that reason no further questions or tinkering with it are needed. All of the foregoing has made a very great contribution to our efforts to complete our very complex national unity and union. An attitude based on the beliefs and the various principles of religion provides its own substance to the Pancasila as the national ideology of our country.

The president said by way of warning: "If we did not have the Pancasila and if we did not live and respect the Pancasila, we might encounter great difficulties and obstacles in the social, cultural, and religious fields, as a number of other free nations are still experiencing."

He added that in the framework of implementing the P4 program [Guide for Implementing the Pancasila] and in the application of the Pancasila as the single founding principle of the nation we have developed a positive and creative relationship between religious lives directed toward the gods of the respective faiths in which we believe. According to the president, this development has made all of us happier.

All religious groups are beginning to give meaning to their joint task of laying firm moral, ethical, and spiritual foundations for national development in implementation of the Pancasila. In this way we have been able to give positive meaning to our view that the country of the Pancasila is neither a religious nor a secular state.

Not a Political Party

Meanwhile, Kyai Haji Achmad Sidiq, general chairman of the Executive Committee of the Advisory Council of the NU, said in his opening speech that the NU declaration of 1926 defined the position of the NU as a religious and social organization and not as a political party. This did not in any sense mean prohibiting its taking political positions or forbidding its members from taking part in politics.

For the NU politics are very important in national and community life, just as the economy, business, and trade are very important. The NU has a high regard for its members who play a proper role in politics or in business. The only qualification is that they are invited to do this in a political or business organization and not in the NU, because the NU is not a political or business organization. There is a great deal of work which must be handled directly by the NU which, up to now, has not been completed by the NU as an organization.

Achmad Sidiq said: "It is hoped that this congress will be a meeting for the consolidation of the NU message. It is hoped that concepts will be developed for clarifying the meaning of the NU message regarding a number of questions, including refining the methods for spreading understanding of the NU message in a directed, operational sense, and the attitude and view of the NU on a number of essential and actual questions, as well as other matters which, as a routine matter, are tasks for the congress."

Festive Atmosphere

The 28th NU Congress is proceeding in a festive atmosphere. This congress, which is being held from 25 to 28 November, will reach a variety of decisions to clarify and to define the efforts to be made by this largest Islamic mass organization to return to its program of struggle, known as the NU Declaration of 1926.

No less than 2,000 NU leaders and observers from a variety of specialized groups throughout the country have been in Yogyakarta since 24 November to attend the congress, which is being held about 4 kilometers south of the city. The official opening of the congress on 25 November was attended by about 60,000 people.

A festive atmosphere was seen in Yogyakarta and around the place where the congress is being held. There were attractive, colored flags and banners. On 26 November the Yogyakarta Kite Flying Association put on a demonstration of kite flying. In addition, drum bands and rhythm orchestras joined in celebrating the congress.

A number of members of the Fifth Development Cabinet also gave speeches at the congress, including the ministers of home affairs, religion, and defense and security. The election of the new leaders of the NU Executive Committee will be held on 28 November.

When President and Mrs Suharto arrived at the Al Munawir Center, they were greeted by Haji Atabik Ali, who acted as host, representing Kyai Haji Ali Ma'shum, his father and director of the center who is ill. President and Mrs Suharto took time to visit Kyai Haji Ali Ma'shum in his bedroom. Prior to the opening of the congress several verses from the Koran were read by Bahrori. After the congress was formally opened, the president received an NU plaque from Abdurachman Wahid, chairman of the NU Board of Directors.

Moerdani Comments on NU Leadership

900G0090B Jakarta ANGKATAN BERSENJATA in Indonesian 27 Nov 89 pp 3, 7

[Text] Jakarta, (AB)—Minister of Defense and Security L. B. Moerdani has declared that the Indonesian Islamic community in particular and the Indonesian people in general do not want to have differences of opinion develop among leaders of the NU [Nahdatul Ulama—Moslem scholars] at the present NU Congress. They also do not want to have differences develop among Moslem scholars, which could have a negative impact, not only on the NU itself but also on the national interest in general.

The minister of defense and security made this statement in his speech before delegates attending the 28th Congress of the Nahdatul Ulama on 25 November at the Al Munawir Krapyak Center in Yogyakarta.

He said that organizational dynamics made it possible for differences of opinion to emerge. However, these differences must be resolved through discussion and the

development of a consensus which pays increased attention to common interests. The Nahdatul Ulama is a large organization, the largest in Indonesia. As a result, the decisions reached at the congress will make a very meaningful contribution to the development of policies at the national level.

Speaking of the political sphere, the minister of defense and security said that the needs of society in the political sphere are different from those in the developmental sphere. In the field of political activity what is needed is the availability of power on a massive scale to create the desired political system. Meanwhile, in the developmental sphere what is needed is the availability of skilled and qualified workers who are capable of reaching the goals of the development program. The two needs are based on human resources, because human resources are a source of power with a great potential for every nation in achieving its objectives.

He said that for this reason community organizations, including the NU, are vehicles for training national cadres for the role expected from them in the future for a national effort to carry out the development program. Therefore, the formation and development of community organizations must be coordinated with the development of an environment and anticipation of the future which the nation is expected to face.

Political Education

Regarding the development of the political sector and political education in particular, the minister outlined the basic point that the Pancasila is accepted as the single founding principle in the Indonesian political life and system. He said that this is the foundation and pillar of the policy of nationalism. For in this direction lies the solidity of our political system as sought by the founding fathers of this country, that is, integral order in every aspect of life.

He warned that at one time the PKI [Indonesian Communist Party] "accepted" the Pancasila but only as a tactic in implementing its program. This was possible because the political system at that time did not fit in with the spirit of Indonesian nationalism. This historical fact should always be repeated in the program of political education so that, in the future the Pancasila should truly and sincerely be accepted as the single founding principle of the nation and not as a program tactic.

In another part of his speech Minister of Defense and Security L. B. Moerdani said that the role of educational institutions in the NU, with its village schools, is to train national leaders who are true professionals in their areas of work and who possess qualities suited to the demands of the times.

In determining educational objectives an effort should always be made to ensure that religious interests and community or national interests are integrated in terms of their thought processes and directed toward the implementation of their programs.

Leaders trained in village educational institutions should not be different from leaders trained in other educational institutions. Their training must be focused on turning out quality cadres to support continued development in all fields, with a more fully formed religious content.

He said that in the training of professional and high quality leaders a clear effort must be made to develop the following human characteristics:

- First, an Indonesian person with a sense of morality who supports Pancasila style democracy and who has a feeling of unity and union
- Secondly, an Indonesian person who believes in Almighty God, has a lofty sense of nobility, has a sense of identity, is disciplined, and is committed to the struggle to defend the interests of the nation
- Thirdly, an Indonesian person who has mastered science and technology in preparing himself or herself as instruments for national development
- Fourthly, an Indonesian person who has a patriotic spirit and soul and is a leader and is willing to sacrifice himself or herself for the nation
- Fifthly, an Indonesian person who has a broad outlook and is committed to follow in the footsteps of the national development effort.

Manpower Minister Calls for Minimum Wage Revision

90OG0091A Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
24 Nov 89 p 2

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS—The government is now developing a concept for improving the wage system for private sector employees. It is felt that the current concept of wages based on KFM (minimum physical requirements) is inconsistent with current conditions and should be replaced with a KHM (minimum living requirements) concept.

Minister of Manpower Cosmas Batubara revealed this to KOMPAS on Thursday [23 November] at Sunter, North Jakarta, after the signing of a first-phase KKB (joint work agreement) between the directors of PT [Limited Company] Honda Astra Engine Manufacturing (PT HAEM) and the local SPSI (All-Indonesia Labor Federation) unit.

The KFM concept, which was introduced about 30 years ago and has been applied ever since in the form of a minimum wage, is no longer consistent with conditions. In order to achieve maximum employee productivity, it is not enough simply to fulfill physical or "calorie" requirements. Other living requirements, such as housing, recreation, etc., must also be met.

Dr Sumakmur P.K., MS, director general for development and oversight in the Department of Manpower, and Rudy Hutabarat of the SPSI DPP [Central Executive Council] earlier acknowledged to KOMPAS that a concept existed for improving the wage system. "The community needs to become aware of the concept first,

and that takes time. We hope employers and other parties involved will participate in making the community aware of the concept," they said.

Implementation Begins

Information gathered by KOMPAS shows that the government strongly desires to improve the welfare of employees in the private sector. One evidence of this was PERMEN [Ministerial Regulation] No 5/1989, in which the minister of manpower established a new minimum wage, i.e., the lowest permissible basic wage, exclusive of benefits.

The new policy includes clear and specific legal penalties. Employers who do not comply are subject to 3 months' imprisonment or a fine of 100,000 rupiah. The private sector minimum wage had previously consisted of the basic wage and the benefits provided by a company.

One-Sided

For 2 weeks in October, the SPSI DPP sent a survey team to industrial centers in Greater Jakarta to obtain concrete data about the extent of compliance with the minimum wage regulation. The results were disturbing. Of the 97 firms surveyed in North Jakarta, 78 of them (80.5 percent) still paid wages less than the minimum wage.

Of 81 companies surveyed in West Jakarta, 56 (69.1 percent) still paid less than the minimum wage. In East Jakarta, of the 90 companies surveyed, 42 (46.7 percent) paid wages lower than the minimum wage.

Minister of Manpower Directive KEP-600/MEN/1987 set the regional minimum wage for Greater Jakarta at 1,600 rupiah per day (7 working hours, or 40 hours per week). However, the average monthly KFM for Greater Jakarta for the period April-June 1989 was as follows: a single person, 67,561 rupiah (2,600 calories per day); a man with a wife and two children, 145,723 rupiah (8,100 calories per day); and a man with a wife and three children, 174,606 (10,000 calories per day).

Adm Sumitro: Navy Needs New Submarines

900G0091B Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
27 Nov 89 p 1

[Text] Surabaya, KOMPAS—In order to protect the waters of the archipelago, the TNI-AL [Indonesian Navy] needs additional new submarines. With these new submarines, it is hoped that our capability for guarding our waters will be more reliable and that the possibility of penetration by outsiders will be reduced. Rear Admiral Sumitro, commander of the Eastern Fleet [PANGARTIM], made this statement in Surabaya on Saturday [25 November].

The PANGARTIM did not specify how many submarines the TNI-AL already owns. He merely said, "But

with four or five new submarines, people will think before they penetrate our waters."

At another point in his remarks, he touched on the test firing of a Harpoon guided missile, saying, "I am a hundred percent satisfied with the Harpoon test, but I am never satisfied in our efforts to improve professionalism. If there is improvement in one aspect, there is certain to be a decline in several others."

As has been reported, the TNI-AL successfully launched a Harpoon guided missile on 14 November in the Indian Ocean in joint exercises conducted by the TNI-AL and the TNI-AU [Indonesian Air Force]. The Harpoon missile was fired to sink the former KRI [Indonesian Ship] Hiu, a submarine chaser.

In addition, a TNI-AU F-5 Tiger fired a Sidewinder missile at the ship. The air-to-air missile was intentionally fired at the ship, which had been equipped with a special device to guide the Sidewinder. Besides testing equipment and weapons, this major exercise also enhanced some aspects of professionalism in combat at sea, such as convoy control, antisubmarine warfare, and underway replenishment.

"Because our training organizations are not yet able to offer equipment like that on ships, these organizations only lead toward professionalism but do not create it," said Rear Adm Sumitro, who is busy with preparations for Fleet Day on 5 December. He said he is thankful that during the 8 months in which he has commanded the Eastern Fleet there has not been a serious ship repair problem.

The development of professionalism includes expanded mastery of science and technology. In the Eastern Fleet, this development activity is conducted by KOLATARMATIM (Eastern Fleet Training Command), which consists of several training centers, such as the PUSLAT (Training Center) for Amphibious Naval Operations.

Equipment Modernization

The modernization of the Navy's equipment began in 1979, particularly with regard to surface ships. This development is looked on as a leap of 20 years into the future. Several types of ships complete with weapons systems have been acquired, like the KRI Yos Sudarso with its Harpoon missiles.

This era of new major weapons systems began with the acquisition of ships from several friendly countries. The first were PSK (patrol ship killer) fast missile ships like the KRI Badik, vessels of the LST (landing ship tank) type like the KRI Teluk Sampit, the PKR (guided missile destroyer) KRI Fatahillah, DE's (destroyer escorts) like the KRI Ki Hadjar Dewantara, and the modern submarine KRI Nanggala.

The acquisition of new ships of the FPB-57 (fast patrol boat) type built by PT PAL [Navy Shipyard Limited Company] is also very gratifying. There are no plans yet

for the addition of other ships, but the fleet proposes that ships that cannot be maintained over the next 5 years be replaced when funds are available.

Shipyards Modernize To Meet National Demands

90OG0074A Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT in German
7 Nov 89 p 26

[Text] Soerabaya—When Suleyman Wiriardidjaja, the director of the Indonesian State Shipyard Pt. Pal, calls the Germans "the mentors of Indonesian shipbuilding," this compliment is intended primarily for the Luerssen Shipyards on the Weser, the Meyer Shipyard in Papenburg, and Bremen's consulting firm Maierform.

Luerssen and Meyer have been working in Indonesia for many years. Both shipyards are willing to upgrade past cooperative efforts to the level of coproduction, and to expand past coproduction in accordance with Indonesian wishes.

"What we are looking for," says Suleyman in a HANDELSBLATT interview, "is an equal rights partnership, ranging from joint design efforts to joint production and to joint marketing." The basis for this has already been established: Over the last 10 years the Pt. Pal has modernized and reorganized the down-at-the-heels facilities of the former Soerabaya naval shipyards. Since then, production of naval patrol boats has been started jointly with Luerssen; also, coastal motor ships, small tankers, Caraka-Jaya series freighters, and four hydrofoil boats have been built, the latter in cooperation with Boeing.

Suleyman feels that Indonesia has thus proven its capability of building ships. Now he thinks it is time to catch up in the ship design area and to accelerate the expansion of the ancillary and shipping equipment industries.

Pt. Pal is one of the ten state-owned enterprises which are subordinate to the Management Agency for Strategic Industries (BPIS), founded last September. The chairman of BPIS is Professor Habibie, Minister for Science and Research and director of BPPT, the Indonesian Technology Authority.

For the entire strategic industry area, Prof Habibie follows systematic phase concepts to replace imports with domestic production. According to his plans, Pt. Pal is to be essentially independent within 4 years. In any case, by the end of 1992, the endpoint of the current energetic shipyard expansion program, Pt. Pal will be the most modern of all shipyards in Southeast Asia and one of the most modern in the entire Far East. Apart from Pt. Pal, Indonesia has seven other major shipyards, five of which are state-owned. In addition, about 120 small-ship manufacturers are licensed in Indonesia.

Classification of shipbuilding as a strategic industry and the decision to make the Pal Shipyard into the Indonesian shipbuilding center are an indication of the value placed by the government on shipbuilding.

With a water surface territory three times the size of the land mass, which is splintered into 13,600 islands, Indonesia is the world's largest archipelago. Shipping traffic is essential, and that is the reason why shipbuilding is an industry which is not faced with the question of whether investment for expansion is profitable. The domestic market is large enough. Even though the government has basically prohibited the import of ships, it must tolerate some importing to satisfy the rapidly expanding demand.

Capacious Market—Mandatory Investment

It will be some time before domestic shipbuilding will be able to satisfy national needs, in both the naval and commercial areas. Future navy requirements alone are based on the fact that out of the 16 major international waterways, four run through Indonesian territory.

Over the last few years the Indonesian Navy has built five new bases. Jointly with the naval forces, which are satisfied with the Luerssen ships as well as with Luerssen management, Pt. Pal wants further to increase coproduction with Luerssen, considering itself capable also as an export base for jointly produced patrol boats. Pt. Pal is also interested in the joint manufacture of yachts. To build frigates, Pt. Pal is currently conducting negotiations with Blohm & Voss. The first step in this would be jointly produced designs. Under discussion also are minesweepers and submarines.

Insufficient Capacities—Obsolescence of the Fleet

It is generally believed that the outlook for the commercial sector is still more attractive in view of the fact that the island empire has a population of 178 million, with the economy enjoying a boom all over the country. Not only has insular freight and passenger traffic tonnage become insufficient, but the great majority of inter-insular commercial, passenger, and fishing vessels are quite obsolescent.

Every year 250,000 tons of shipping capacity are to be retired. The biggest customer is the state-owned Pelni Shipyard, though an increasing number of private yards indicates the presence of a market with great purchasing power requiring a broad spectrum of ship types ranging from ferries, passenger, and container ships all the way to super-freighters and tankers.

In the civilian area the Meyer Shipyard from Papenburg in Lower Saxony has staked out a respected position for itself, which to date is based essentially on the sale of ten inter-insular passenger ships. Seven have been delivered to date. The contract for the remaining three, which was signed last September, further extends this cooperation. Meyer will send three of its engineers for consultation in shipyard management and organization to Pt. Pal and will train six Pt. Pal engineers in the FRG for a period of 6 months. Beyond that, both sides intend to examine the possibility of joint production of passenger ships and ferries.

Maierform, which is engaged in the joint design of several ship types with Pt. Pal, has, among other things, modified the design of the Caraka-Jaya freighter series. The original design came from Mitsui. However, Pt. Pal will build another 24 Caraka-Jaya freighters from the Japanese design.

In October, a tender offer was published for the necessary materials and equipment for these freighters. Suleyman told *HANDELSBLATT* that bids will be received until the end of November. The first half of the \$75 million contracts are to go to European firms. To receive a contract, however, bidders must agree to partial production in Indonesia. This, according to Suleyman, could take place together with Pt. Pal on its premises. Pt. Pal wishes to terminate its exclusive cooperation with the Japanese in the manufacture of its Caraka-Jaya ships.

The subcontracting and equipment industries go hand in hand with such shipbuilding plans. Here too, FRG enterprises have a good starting position. Suleyman indicates that Pt. Pal is presently examining licensing contract proposals from MAK and MAN, which are initially to build engines and later to expand into component production. A license contract is presently in existence with MTU in the naval ship area; Pt. Pal is also cooperating with Thyssen in the pump area.

There is a long list of components and equipment items which are no longer to be imported, but produced domestically under license. On it are deck cargo handling devices, navigation and telecommunication systems, engine room equipment, and air conditioning facilities. In the opinion of Suleyman, who had himself studied shipbuilding in Germany, these are the areas where German firms have a lot to offer.

West Irian Assesses Industrial Development

90OG0090C Jakarta *KOMPAS* in Indonesian
27 Nov 89 p 5

[Text] The development of the industrial sector in Irian Jaya during the Fifth 5-Year Plan is directed toward the growth of industry for processing raw materials into semi-finished or finished goods on a small, medium, and large scale.

Industrial development in Irian Jaya is being undertaken in accordance with the available potential and growth possibilities during the Fifth 5-Year Plan. It involves industry for processing agricultural, forest, marine, and mineral products turned out by small scale and cottage industry and other processing factories.

Dr H. P. Siagian, chief of the Provincial Office of the Department of Industry, made this statement in his paper entitled, "General Standards for Industrial Development in Irian Jaya and Their Relationship to the Development of the Forestry Products Processing Industry." The paper was presented at a seminar on the

forestry development program in Irian Jaya under the Fifth 5-Year Plan which was held in Jayapura on 25 November.

Doctor Siagian said that the development of the industrial sector should create jobs, community income, foreign exchange, and meet the needs of the people.

Forestry production in an area of 23.6 million hectares is a source of food products with a great potential to support national or regional development.

For Irian Jaya the use of this potential is a stimulus for national and regional development, particularly in ending regional isolation and increasing the living levels of the people in this area.

Beginning to Develop

According to Doctor Siagian, the use of forestry resources in this area through commercial forest activity, including forest industry, is not yet developing as was hoped for.

Since the government halted the export of logs in 1985, commercial forest activity has encountered problems. Indeed, a number of holders of HPH's [Commercial Forest Licenses] have gone out of business. However, beginning with the period 1987/1988 commercial forest activity has begun to develop, together with the development of the timber industry.

He said that there are now 33 small lumber mills in Irian Jaya, whose production is valued at 1.0 trillion rupiahs annually with an investment of 114.534 million rupiahs. They provide jobs to 271 workers.

There are 66 companies producing household furnishings, whose production is valued at 818.671 million rupiahs with an investment of 547.009 million rupiahs. They employ 328 workers.

There are 74 companies using non wood commodities, whose production is valued at 181.976 million rupiahs with an investment of 7.5 million rupiahs. They employ 203 workers. Commercial forest activity is beginning to grow, together with the development of the lumber industry.

In addition the miscellaneous industrial group, includes four lumber mills, with total production valued at 442.445 million rupiahs and a productive capacity of 16,350 cubic meters of lumber.

Size of Population Below Poverty Level Drops 40 Percent

90OG0070B Jakarta *MERDEKA* in Indonesian
3 Nov 89 p 8

[Text] At the end of last year more than 22 million people in Indonesia were considered living below the poverty level; this represents about 13 percent of Indonesia's population of 172 million and shows a drop of 40

percent from the 1975 figures of 72 million of the 132 million people in Indonesia at that time.

In a paper delivered in Ujungpandang on Saturday [28 October] at a 1-day seminar commemorating the 41st anniversary of Hasanudin University's School of Economics and 41 years of Indonesian higher economic education, the economist Dr Abdul Rachman Paneto stated that economic development between PELITA I [First 5-Year Development Plan] and the present time has had positive effects on the welfare of Indonesian society.

Abdul Rachman also said that per capita income in the eastern part of Indonesia was still lower than income in the western part of Indonesia.

He said that in 1988 per capita income in the eastern part of Indonesia was only 500,000 rupiahs whereas the average income nationally was 724,000 rupiahs.

These statistics show that per capita income in the western part of Indonesia is higher than per capita income in the eastern part of Indonesia.

He also said that since PELITA I changes in the economic structure have been much slower in the eastern part of Indonesia than at the national level.

"The consequences are that the eastern part of Indonesia contributes very little to the industrial sector," he said. In 1988, said Dr Abdul Rachman, the industrial sector contributed 18 percent to the Indonesian economy as a whole; but in the eastern part of Indonesia this figure was only 4 percent.

Kaysone Phomvihane Profiled

90OG0086A Paris SUDESTASIE in French
No 59, Oct 89 pp 15, 16

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Kaysone, the eldest of the three Phomvihanes, was born 13 December, 1920. He attended the Savannakhet grade school before being sent to Hanoi in 1930 to continue his studies there. After obtaining his baccalaureat, he enrolled in the college of law and medicine. The events of the time prevented him from getting his degrees.

At that time he joined the Indochinese independence movement led by Ho Chi Minh, then returned to northern Laos to organize armed resistance to the French.

A Partisan of the Use of Force

Dr Oudom Souvannavong, who was his classmate at the University of Hanoi, often discussed politics with Kaysone and other Laotian students. From these discussions two positions emerged.

"True, the French are colonialists. But they are rich and powerful. They have to be taken into account so they can help us until we are economically and technically stronger. Then we can talk about independence," maintained Oudom.

Kaysone: "Our country belongs to us, what do we need with a master? The sooner our country is independent, the better. Waiting for the colonizers to give away something for nothing is extremely naive, you might as well wait for a wolf to turn into a lamb. Colonialism must be combatted, by force if necessary."

This discussion took place in 1942. Thereafter each followed his own logic. Oudom completed his studies and was awarded a doctorat in medicine in France. He returned to Laos as the first Laotian doctor. He served as minister of health several times. In 1975, when Kaysone

came out of hiding and appeared openly in Vientiane as the head of government of the PDRL (Lao Peoples' Democratic Republic), he met up again with his classmate Oudom. The latter agreed to serve the new regime as president of the Laotian Red Cross, a job he held till his death in 1985.

A Lover of Shakespeare

His wife Phomvihane Tongvinh, 25 years his junior, has born him six children. The eldest has just graduated from the University of Moscow; the youngest is only 9. Mrs Phomvihane has been a PPRL [Lao Peoples' Revolutionary Party] militant since the age of 14. She received her training in Hanoi and Moscow. Elected a member of the Central Committee at the PPRL's last congress in 1986, she devotes her energy to the youth movement. Young people, she says, must model their lives after the life of Sin Xay. Sin Xay is the young hero of the Laotian epic who travels hill and dale braving every kind of danger to slay Kouphang, the incarnation of evil. "Be a modern Sin Xay, follow the example of the Phoenix which spreads its wings to rise as high as possible in the firmament." It is hard to say how much she influences her husband, aside from the fact that he is the uncontested head of the Party and a great fan of traditional song, particularly of Khonesavan, a type of song that originated in his native province. He is, moreover, an admirable player of the Khene, a typically Laotian musical instrument.

An ardent fan of Shakespeare, Kaysone is an avid reader. He has written several works, one of which, "Laos and the Revolution," was translated by a Moscow editor.

Kaysone's education has been French and he is an admirer of Napoleon and de Gaulle. His knowledge of the language and culture of Moliere's land may help during his visit to France—Kaysone has never set foot there—to restore the tranquillity of French-Laotian relations.

FRG To Deliver Steyr AUG Weapons to Malaysia Beginning in 1991

90OG0067A Jakarta TEKNOLOGI & STRATEGI MILITER in Indonesian Nov 89 p 68

[Text] The Malaysian Armed Forces has finally selected the 5.56 mm Steyr AUG (Armee Universal Gewehr) assault rifle. One hundred thousand rifles equipped with the Bullpup system will be purchased and delivered within the next 10 years. The first delivery of 10,000 will take place in 1991. The total value of the contract is M\$ 3 million or \$1.11 million.

Malaysian Minister of Defense Ahmad Rithauddeen said that the contract between Steyr and the Malaysian Explosives Sdn Bhd [Inc.] stipulates that Malaysia will manufacture 40 to 60 percent of the AUG's components.

Australia has also selected the AUG rifle and production has begun there under a license with Steyr. This rifle is also used by New Zealand's Armed Forces.

According to Malaysian plans, the AUG will replace various types of 5.56 mm assault rifles currently being used, such as, the M-16, the AR-70/90 and the HK33E, and 7.62 mm rifles, such as, the FN-FAL and the G3SG1.

Taiwan, Hong Kong Second Largest Investors

90OG0084B Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 3 Nov 89 p 3

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 2 Nov—After Japan, Taiwan and Hong Kong have been the largest investors in Malaysia during the last 9 years.

Minister of Trade and Industry Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz said 372 manufacturing projects from Taiwan were approved during this period.

She said 84 of them are fully owned by Taiwanese interests, and the other 288 are joint ventures with Malaysians.

Replying in writing to a question from Lee Lam Thye (DAP [Democratic Action Party], Bintang), Datuk Sri Rafidah stated that most investments from Taiwan are focused on electrical and electronics products industries.

Investments from Hong Kong, which total 262.4 million ringgit, are focused on textile industries.

Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz revealed that of the 400 applications for foreign-related manufacturing projects received from January to August 1989 a total of 119 had the involvement of Taiwan and capital investment of 1.299 billion ringgit.

She stated that 24 applications were received for projects with Hong Kong participation and investment of 291.1 million ringgit.

"Judging by the number of applications received from those two countries, it is clear that investments from Taiwan and Hong Kong have good potential for the future," she asserted.

In reply to another question, she said that in just 9 years 5,308 manufacturing projects have been approved by the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Mahathir on Prospects of Unity Without Spirit of '46

90OG0083C Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 5 Nov 89 p 2

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 4 Nov—Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Monamad stated today that unity among Malays does not mean unity between the Spirit of '46 and UMNO [United Malays National Organization] but means that the members of the Spirit of '46 may now join UMNO.

The UMNO president said that in order to achieve Malay unity it would be better for members of the Spirit of '46 to join UMNO.

He declared the willingness of UMNO to meet with anyone, including Spirit of '46 adviser Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, in its effort to achieve Malay unity.

"Malay unity will not be reached by combining parties, and it will be better for them to join UMNO. Whether the party is dissolved or not, we will accept its members in UMNO," he said.

Speaking at a press conference after chairing a meeting of the party's Supreme Council here this afternoon, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir also announced the following:

- Seputeh and Titiwangsa UMNO Youth Movement conferences will be held again after several things are done at the branch level.
- He is satisfied with efforts to strengthen the party and with preparations for possible general elections, including arrangements for statements, posters, etc.
- He has appointed Datuk Sri Sanusi Junid, Datuk Sri Rahim Tamby Chik, and Anwar Ibrahim to be delegates to the youth conference, and Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen, Datuk Khalid Yunus, and Datuk Khalid Abdullah as delegates to the women's conference.
- Problems regarding the conferences of several divisions have been resolved, except for the one at Sungai Benut, which is to be handled by Ghafar Baba. Problems at Johor Bahru are now being solved.
- The report on special service afforded to prisoner Abdullah Ang has been referred to the attorney general for decision as to when the report may be revealed to the public.

When asked to comment on the recent meeting of UMNO Youth Movement with Tunku Abdul Rahman, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said the Supreme Council welcomed and gave its blessing to the effort made by UMNO Youth.

Deputy Police Chief's Mixed Reaction to Communist Surrender*90OG0080C Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 7 Nov 89 p 1*

[Text] Pinang Island, 6 November—The government must give priority to national and the people's security before taking a stand on the surrender of Malayan Communist Party (PKM) members, explained Datuk Abdul Rahim Mohd. Noor, deputy chief of the National Police.

He said the communist rebellion in this country left bitter memories which could not possibly be forgotten just like that.

"This rebellion, which sacrificed many people including members of the security forces, has been recorded in history.

"We do not want to reopen old wounds by our acceptance of them or their surrender, if it occurs," he replied to newsmen who asked whether Malaysia would accept PKM members who surrendered in Thailand.

Datuk Abdul Rahim made this statement after opening a Crime Prevention Seminar for deputy police chiefs and heads of state criminal investigation offices throughout the country here today.

The government, he said, also had to make an accurate and detailed inquiry into all aspects of the surrender before the government accepted them.

Must Investigate First

He said the government had to determine first whether they were surrendering because they really wanted to return to society and that they would not rebel again.

"We also must find out why they are surrendering now."

Datuk Abdul Rahim drew attention to the fact that they perhaps were surrendering because of the changes occurring in communist countries or because armed rebellion no longer was appropriate.

"In any case, we must put the nation's and the people's security first," he remarked.

He explained that the people of this country pursued a democratic system and did not want their now peaceful life threatened.

Government Cautious on Admitting Hong Kong Immigrants*90OG0080B Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA 7 Nov 89 p 7*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 6 November—The government is not offering to accept foreign nationals, including professionals and skilled workers, from Hong Kong who might want to emigrate to Malaysia.

Datuk dr Sulaiman Daud, a minister of the Prime Minister's Office, informed the House of Representatives today that Malaysia has not given its consent to the emigration of individuals to Malaysia merely because they do not agree with their government's administrative policies.

This was his response to Mr Liew Ah Kim (representing the DAP [Democratic Action Party] for Seputeh) who asked whether the government would follow Singapore's example of accepting professionals from Hong Kong following the bloody incidents that occurred in Tiananmen Square in Peking.

Nevertheless, he added, the government's policy is to encourage Hong Kong investors and industrialists to invest in Malaysia.

Meanwhile, opposition party leaders were criticized for making derogatory statements about Malaysia when visiting overseas countries. This forced the government to enter into discussions in the United States to defend its right to the General Schedule of Priorities (GSP).

Raja Datuk Ariffin Raja Sulaiman, a deputy minister of the Prime Minister's Office, said if the government had not entered into these discussions, many Malaysians would have lost their jobs.

"Now the opposition wants the government to restrict the number of Malaysians who emigrate. What has happened to the basic human rights for which the DAP has struggled?" he asked in response to a question from Mr Lee Lam Thye (representing the DAP for Bukit Bintang) in the House of Representatives today.

Raja Datuk Ariffin said he did not know why the opposition always raised the question of emigration as though it was a huge struggle.

It is not the people who leave Malaysia, he said, who are ruining the country, it is the behavior of opposition leaders who make derogatory statements about Malaysia when they are abroad.

He informed the House that the government was aware of the emigration of Malaysians, but their number was very small.

There are several reasons why people emigrate, and this happens in many countries, he explained.

Singapore, which is an advanced nation and which has a high per capita income with excellent economic growth, also has this problem, he said.

Mahathir Deplores DAP Withdrawal From Economic Council*90OG0083A Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 5 Nov 89 p 1*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 4 Nov—Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad called the DAP [Democratic Action Party] withdrawal from the National Economic Consultative

Council (MAPEN) an action motivated by politics and lacking in responsibility for the country and the unity of communal groups.

The prime minister said this position demonstrated DAP arrogance and that by this withdrawal DAP will have opportunity to question any decision MAPEN makes on future government actions.

He said DAP also does not accept the concept of compromise or the making of joint decisions by the council. On the contrary, they themselves want to make decisions for the country.

"If DAP people were in MAPEN, they could try to persuade the others if there was something they didn't agree with. But now that they have withdrawn they can say they were not involved in any policy that the council approves," he said.

Speaking to reporters after chairing a meeting of the UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Supreme Council this afternoon, the prime minister said he believed the action was motivated by the political interests of the party.

DAP Secretary-General Lim Kit Siang announced the withdrawal yesterday, citing as reasons the lack of ministers from UMNO leadership circles on the council and the fact that council members not fluent in Malaysian are not permitted to speak in English.

With regard to the rationale that no senior government people, particularly Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir, are on the council, the prime minister said:

"If I were on the council, they would say I am trying to influence everything and no one else is allowed to speak. Thus, I have avoided attending so that everyone will be free to speak.

"DAP people want political status. Because they lead DAP, they think that the president of UMNO and the head of the National Front should be there," he said.

The prime minister said the attitude shown by DAP is as though they feel that other people on the council are lower than they and should not speak.

"That is unacceptable arrogance," he said.

Meanwhile, the MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association] said the DAP withdrawal was not unexpected in the light of the upcoming general elections.

MCA Deputy Secretary-General Dr Ting Chew Peh said the decision to withdraw also showed that DAP has failed to use the opportunity to contribute to social renewal efforts for all the people in the country.

In a statement today, he also said the opposition party's position smells of politics because of the upcoming general elections.

"The MCA deplores the DAP position," he said, adding that the MCA is confident of MAPEN's role and will continue to offer opinions for its consideration.

He said DAP can still present its views at both committee and plenary session levels, since the reports from several committees are still in planning.

He said MAPEN is now entering the crucial phase of seeking agreement on general strategies to be followed after the termination of the New Economic Policy next year.

Defense Minister Guarantees Security of National Secrets

90OG0083B Kuala Lumpur *BERITA HARIAN* in Malay 5 Nov 89 p 2

[Text] Kuala Lumpur—Minister of Defense Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen guaranteed that Malaysian defense and security secrets cannot be obtained by neighboring countries possessing high technology sensing equipment.

He said the government is aware of the capabilities of such equipment and has taken careful action to ensure that state secrets will not be revealed by surveillance.

"The government has methods for maintaining control and always guards national defense and security secrets," he said in an interview at the Ministry of Defense yesterday.

He said those countries cannot obtain any defense and security secret, including troop movements.

Equipment Capabilities

Minister of Science, Technology, and Environment Datuk Amar Stephen Young said there are some countries in this region that use satellites to spy on Malaysia.

Countries with high technology sensing equipment are capable of recording every movement and development in this country. The nations that have progressed in the use of sensing facilities are Australia, Japan, India, Bangladesh, and Thailand.

Tengku Rithauddeen said the public does not need to worry that the capabilities of such equipment will enable them to spy on national operations.

"The government has long known about this and has always guarded state security secrets," he said.

Meanwhile, Army Commander General Tan Sri Yaacob Mat Zin said satellites used by some of Malaysia's neighbors cannot spy on this country's military's operations.

He said the satellites are able only to detect physical structures, such as buildings and roads, but are not able to detect strength and numbers of military personnel.

"I don't feel there is any danger and am surprised that satellites are said to be a threat to national defense," he stated.

He said, however, that the military has its own equipment and methods for preventing spying, such as secret networks, equipment for locating enemy radio transmissions, and facilities for listening to foreign communications.

He said spying by satellite cannot be a hundred percent prevented, because the big powers possess advanced technology for such equipment.

General Tan Sri Yaacob denied reports that the government is prepared to pardon remnants of Malaysian Communist Party (PKM) terrorists, saying that so far only the Thai Government has taken this step.

"The government has emphasized that each PKM terrorist or former terrorist who is captured or who surrenders in this country will be subject to legal action in accordance with existing regulations," he said.

He said this as a comment on reports in the BANGKOK POST that PKM terrorists agreed to end their 40-year struggle after Thai Army Commander General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh gave them official and written guarantee of safety and right to Thai citizenship.

He said about 400 terrorists of the PKM 8th and 10th Regiments have surrendered and have been given housing facilities near the Thai border.

Parliament Member Urges Election Delay

90OG0084A Kuala Lumpur *BERITA HARIAN* in Malay 3 Nov 89 p 3

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 2 Nov—The government was asked today to delay general elections until after the MAPEN [National Economic Consultative Council] completes its work.

Government supporter Chew Kam Hoy (National Front, Padang Serai), who made this plea, also hoped elections will not be held before the cabinet makes its decision on post-1990 national economic policy.

During debate on the 1990 Provisions Law bill in the House of Representatives this afternoon, he said the next elections must not be merely political but must also be a forum in which the people decide their own future after having opportunity to study the economic and development policies proposed by the government.

"Thus, the elections will be more meaningful, for the people not only will elect a party to rule the country but will vote on national development policy as well.

"This is the only way in which we can feel that the future of the Malaysian people is in their own hands. We will then be able to acknowledge the elected government as a 'government of the people, by the people, and for the people,'" he stated.

Chew said the government must first eliminate the communally oriented quota system if we are to achieve national unity.

Chew, who feels that the quota system does not guarantee equality in development for all communal groups, said that allocations of national resources for land projects, tuition, and other development must be based only on need and merit.

Lee Lam Thye (DAP [Democratic Action Party], Bukit Bintang) questioned the policy of the Ministry of Public Enterprises under which it gives taxi permits only to companies.

He said the issuing of permits to selected companies, such as the Saujana Car Hire Co. Ltd., is unfair, because it denies requests from individual taxi drivers and "opens the door to exploitation of drivers."

He said the company reportedly leases the 200 permits it receives to taxi drivers at high rates and sets a number of unfair conditions.

For example, a driver must sign a 6-year contract with the company and must make a 3,000-ringgit deposit.

New Incentives for Multinational Companies Imminent

90OG0079B Kuala Lumpur *UTUSAN MALAYSIA* in Malay 7 Nov 89 p 5

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 6 Nov—Malaysia is prepared to offer new incentives and more beneficial tax rates to foreign-owned international companies that open headquarters in this country for their operations in the Asia-Pacific region, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The prime minister said Malaysia wants more foreign investors to come to this country to bring marketing and technological expertise and use domestic resources and labor.

He is fully confident that such cooperation will produce "great profit" for both sides, he said as he inaugurated the "World Economic Forum: A National Conference on Malaysia."

Malaysia is trying to get more foreign technology and expertise, he stated, adding that the government is serious about making this country attractive and inexpensive as a place for conducting business.

The purpose of the 2-day forum is to review business opportunities in Malaysia and is sponsored by the World Economic Forum, an independent nonprofit foundation created in Switzerland in 1971.

The forum is being attended by about 80 local and foreign participants, most of whom are businessmen. Besides the 40 foreign participants, mostly from Europe, senior officials of the government are also present.

The objective of the World Economic Forum, which is headquartered in Geneva, is to create interaction among business, political, and academic leaders and is known for its annual conference at Davos, Switzerland.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said the conference on Malaysia comes at an appropriate time, because Malaysia has made progress since the last discussions about this country were held 3 years ago.

The prime minister spoke at length on a number of government policies, incentives, and other benefits for foreign investors here, including the low cost of living and the high quality of life. He also provided details on national economic growth since 1980.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said Malaysia steps into 1990 with confidence and the belief that this region will be a center of growth in the next decade.

Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir said Malaysian economic growth in the last 2 years has been rapid and that the gross domestic product is at the 8.7 percent level, the highest it has been in this decade.

This year's growth is expected to be between 7 and 8 percent, while it is very possible that next year's growth will be about 6.5 percent, which is considered high on the international scale, he added.

Labuan, Seen As Tax Haven

900G0079A Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in
Malay 9 Nov 89 p 2

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 8 Nov—The government's action to make Labuan an "investment paradise" demonstrates Malaysian seriousness in seeking to become one of the most profitable centers in the Asia-Pacific region.

The emergence of Labuan as a "first-class tax haven" or a place offering very attractive tax incentives will clearly make Malaysia one of the main places of choice on the world investment and trade map.

When the project is complete, Labuan will operate on a par with other first-class tax havens, like the Bahamas, Jersey Island, Bermuda, and the Cayman Islands.

Nevertheless, many people are asking what is actually meant by the "tax haven" standing that Labuan is to achieve.

According to tax experts, a tax haven is a place that offers attractive incentives in the form of low tax rates, such as a corporate tax rate of less than 20 percent per annum and minimal rates on other taxes.

At first-class tax havens, no taxes at all are imposed on foreign individuals and corporations operating there.

A tax haven usually is equipped with an open financial infrastructure, or, in other words, money can flow in and out without controls and with minimal oversight.

A tax haven is usually equipped with good telecommunications and good land, sea, and air transportation.

Tax incentives at such a place are usually exclusively for foreign investors. At Labuan, therefore, foreign investors would not have to apply for pioneer status.

Minister of Finance Datuk Paduka Daim Zainuddin said yesterday that Labuan will become a first-class tax haven like the Bahamas and Jersey Island.

If the opinion of tax experts is accepted, this means that Labuan will be a tax-free location.

If Labuan actually becomes a tax-free investment center, it will be the most attractive investment center in the Asia-Pacific region and, in fact, in the whole world.

Labuan will not only surpass Singapore but will compete with Hong Kong as the best investment center in this region, since investors in the British colony, worried about its future, are seeking new sites for their operations.

Many Hong Kong investors have been moving their centers of operations to the Bahamas and Jersey Island simply because they want to enjoy the tax incentives and the good, stable investment climate in the two "investment paradises."

Hong Kong, which is classified as a normal tax haven with a low annual corporate tax rate of 17.5 percent, is no longer an attractive location, and if Labuan is developed right it can take over the position once enjoyed by the British colony.

If the government decides not to eliminate entirely all taxes on foreign investments in Labuan, low taxes, such as a corporate tax of less than 20 percent, will still be beneficial, compared with the 35 percent rate now imposed in this country.

It is felt, however, that the government needs to make Labuan a first-class tax haven and not merely like Hong Kong or Singapore, for only in this way will the island be able to compete with the facilities and infrastructure offered by the countries that are Malaysia's main competitors.

Very Appropriate

The steps taken by the government come at a very appropriate time, because businessmen from Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea, besides those from Hong Kong, are seeking new investment sites.

The emergence of Labuan as a tax haven will expedite the national industrialization process, transfer of high technology, expanded inflow of foreign money, and creation of jobs.

Not only will investment on the island be expanded, but the tourism industry there and at nearby places will grow as a result of the influx of foreign investors.

There may then arise the question of what benefit local investors will enjoy as a result of the action to make Labuan an attractive tax haven.

The answer is easy. Local investors need to understand the concept of "tax paradise"—an incentive especially for foreign investors for the purpose of stimulating the input of foreign capital.

However, there may be "clever" local investors who organize corporations in Taiwan or Hong Kong merely because they want to enjoy the benefits at Labuan.

The government should give attention to this possibility, for we do not want these privileges to be misused.

Youth President Interviewed on UMNO's Future
90OG0078A Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in
Malay 7 Nov 89 p 15

[Interview with Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak, president of UMNO Youth, by Chamil Wariya; date and place not specified]

[Text] [Wariya] With regard to future leadership, what do you think UMNO and Malaysia need?

[Datuk Najib] I feel the future need is for more sophistication. I don't think we need an ideologue in the context of Malaysian politics. I think we need more a person who can "perform, deliver the goods" and who can carry out programs effectively to bring realistic change. This is the leadership our country needs in order to keep Malays from being left behind by increasingly sophisticated and complex international developments.

[Wariya] If this is our need, does UMNO [United Malays National Organization] now have people who qualify? If not, what preparation do you think should be made?

[Datuk Najib] Generally, I see that there are such people. The only problem now is how to give them a place among the existing leaders.

If we look in a "micro" way at a specific region, we see that conflicts will naturally arise between the rather uneducated old leaders and the relatively more educated new generation of leaders. We should not blame the old leaders, however, for they grew up while our country was under colonial rule.

It is clear that there will be conflict between the leaders from the old tradition and the educated leaders, since their methods and approaches will differ. The question of whom we should put in the forefront also needs attention.

It seems to me that we should conduct this process carefully and not neglect it. There should be a careful plan so that there will be a change in leadership but one

that is not too fast, for that would bring surprises. We are not able to handle big surprises, and the party would be shaken.

The process must continue, but the phases of change should be neither too fast nor too slow.

[Wariya] It is frequently said that when changes take place, there will be not only conflict but differences in understanding and comprehension of UMNO ideals between the original UMNO generation and the new generation, which is said to have no emotional ties with the things that were fought for at the beginning. Under these conditions, is there uncertainty about the capability of the new generation to maintain UMNO's original struggle?

[Datuk Najib] I am sure there is no problem. That is the reason we have a youth branch, in which we teach young leaders about the nature and history of UMNO's struggle.

I do not see any problem if we look at it as the passing of the torch to a new generation, in the way that a torch is handed to a waiting runner.

I do not think there will be any interruption when the torch is passed to the new generation, because we have had a long process of preparation and teaching.

[Wariya] That's an UMNO internal matter. What is the situation between UMNO and the non-UMNO parties in the National Front? The National Front government is a continuation of the Alliance based on the independence compromise.

People who really understand what was explicit and implicit in that compromise are becoming fewer as the days go by. There are people who don't want the independence compromise to be the principle of the government. They want a "free-for-all." What is your view?

[Datuk Najib] I don't think it is time for us to base Malaysia on what is called a "meritocracy society," in other words, individual capability. We need to keep the independence compromise.

The condition of Malays shows that the country's debt to the Malays, who were oppressed for 400 [as published] centuries, needs more than 32 years for repayment. It will take longer to remove fully the effects of colonial rule.

We want Malays to be equal with other communal groups. When that is achieved, we can talk about a "meritocracy society," but the time has not yet arrived.

[Wariya] UMNO has always been a pragmatic party. Do you think UMNO should have an ideology?

[Datuk Najib] I don't think UMNO should have a rigid ideology. The question of policy is more important than ideology, for factions will emerge if a party has a rigid ideology.

We would naturally label people as leftist, rightist, or moderate. Classifications naturally arise in such a party. I feel that would be a bad situation. What is important is a policy that will fulfill the hopes of Malays.

[Wariya] People say political factions cannot be avoided.

[Datuk Najib] There is factionalism in UMNO, of course, but it is not based on ideology. The factions are related to leaders, not ideology. That's the difference. Factionalism in other parties is based on ideology. In the U.S. Republican Party, for example, there are several right-wing camps.

The same is true of the Conservative Party led by Margaret Thatcher in Britain. But these things do not exist in UMNO. UMNO members depend on their leaders.

[Wariya] How can UMNO adjust to changing conditions while maintaining its traditions?

[Datuk Najib] I think we can adapt methods and conditions in UMNO to radical changes, with regard to the environment, for example. We must have a principle, however, which means that we must perpetuate our genuine UMNO culture.

Nevertheless, we must bring modern elements into UMNO from the aspect of our thinking, understanding, and equipment. We must bring everything sophisticated into UMNO.

[Wariya] When you speak of "UMNO culture," what kind of culture do you mean, for culture is developing and dynamic, not static?

[Datuk Najib] UMNO's original culture emphasizes willingness to sacrifice, serve, and fight. In my opinion, fighting means sacrifice. There must also be compromise, respect for leaders, refusal to spread libelous reports, and willingness to help. We must develop and perpetuate such attributes. There must be a willing spirit. Our party will be destroyed if these things are lost.

[Wariya] There has been "politicking" in UMNO because of elections at the division level. The elections are now over, but they were vicious. The head of the party advised avoidance of elections, but some people refused. Why?

[Datuk Najib] There are many reasons. I feel no one would contradict the president's opinion. If we translate this from a "micro" point of view with regard to the divisions, there are several evaluations one can make.

In the next elections, I do not deny that there is a brighter possibility for division leaders to become candidates. There is no doubt, however, that there will be elections growing out of personal conflicts, personnel changes prompted by certain issues, and conflicts between old and new groups.

Generally, however, most division presidents won without being contested. That was a success. The elections of the few who were opposed were furious, which was unfortunate.

[Wariya] In order to reduce the viciousness of elections, why not change the system so that being president of a division is not a prerequisite for membership in Parliament.

[Datuk Najib] It is not automatic even now. To be a division president means one's influence is greater than that of a member of a division committee. The opinion of a division president is worth more than that of a committee member. That's a reality.

[Wariya] But is it true, as some say, that this reality prevents capable people who do not want to waste time and effort in vicious politicking from getting a place in the party.

[Datuk Najib] If we look at this from a "macro" point of view (comprehensively), no. There are various kinds of leaders in UMNO. There are those who rise because of politicking, and there are those who rise because of ability. If we do a "stocktaking" from a "macro" point of view in this situation, we see we have adequate strength. Moreover, not everyone can hold office. Some must be ordinary delegates and support the government in Parliament.

[Wariya] Do you feel that the selection system needs to be changed?

[Datuk Najib] No change is needed, because I trust the policies of the leader and members of the party as they put together a balanced formula. In UMNO, there are various kinds of groups we must select. There would be problems otherwise.

Furthermore, the way we make decisions in UMNO is like a "council of Indian chiefs," in which everyone has a voice. A decision is made not by one person, but by many people. This includes the division, state, and federal levels of leadership. A number of people make input to decision making. No one has a monopoly.

[Wariya] Do you believe that Malay unity within UMNO has really been restored?

[Datuk Najib] Unity in UMNO has improved since the 1987 elections. We can say now that there is no longer any question of "teams." The 1.3 million people in UMNO are now unified in acceptance of the leadership of Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

There is, however, an outside opposition group. I don't think they could form a government, but they can become spoilers of the balance in a few election districts, as occurred in Teluk Pasu.

Their role is that of spoiler, because they depend on other groups that are enemies of UMNO. Thus, they cooperate with DAP [Democratic Action Party], PAS

[Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party], PSRM [Socialist People's Party of Malaysia], and others.

[Wariya] There are some people, however, who feel that what is being done by the group that was once UMNO and now opposes UMNO is the same as what UMNO does, that is, it depends on other people in order to hold power.

[Datuk Najib] There is a big difference. We are dominant. Although we talk with others, we have a big majority. Other people complement us. We are the nucleus.

If we add things up, that splinter group with a few seats cannot be the dominant power. As an alternative, their influence is overwhelmed. They are only a puppet. There is a big difference.

[Wariya] The head of UMNO has directed that government officials in Group A cannot be active in the party or hold position. It cannot be denied that Group A people would be a potential source of UMNO leaders. Will this action not hurt UMNO?

[Wariya] Actually, we did not choose to do this. We did not want to hinder Group A, but when we were reminded that Group A was restricted by law there arose a situation in which we did not have a choice.

We realized that otherwise we would lose if we were taken to court. Thus, in order to avoid possible disaster to the party by being dragged into court again, we took the step of banning people in Group A from holding positions in the party. We were faced with "Hobson's choice," meaning no choice at all.

Although we value the contributions of government officials, we are forced to use alternative means to enable them to make their contributions. They may serve on bureaus, for example. We admit, however, that they have made great contributions.

[Wariya] If government officials are banned, there is a concern that UMNO will be monopolized by businessmen who will use the party as an arena for tenders and contracts, in other words, wealth. Will this not make the politics of money even more vicious?

[Datuk Najib] We have no choice. If I had a choice, I would like for government officials to serve in the party, but not in conspicuous ways.

A person does not have to be a division president to use his government status to promote himself and put pressure on other people. He can do this as a division committee member, as well.

If a DO [district officer], runs for division president, all the resources of the division office will be used to support his campaign. Such things have happened. Such situations are as bad as the politics of money.

Government Urged To Keep Antipoverty Fight in Economic Policy

90OG0078B Kuala Lumpur *UTUSAN MALAYSIA* in Malay 8 Nov 89 p 2

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 7 Nov—Haji Basri Bajuri, member of Parliament from Kuala Langat, warned the government that whatever the name it gives to the national economic policy after 1990 it must not shift from the goal of eliminating poverty and restructuring society.

He stated that the government must not shift from this original goal, regardless of pressures and demands.

Speaking in a discussion of the 1990 budget in the House of Representatives today, Haji Basri stated that although certain people have raised the issue of quotas their arguments are questionable.

"I feel the time has not come to eliminate the quotas," he stated.

He also proposed that the development of Pulau Lumut be privatized so that the port can give capable and effective service.

Services to be established at Pulau Lumut, he said, should comply with requirements for a modern port and should include facilities for containers and heavy industry.

Haji Mohamad Abdullah (National Front, Maran) expressed his desire that the government conduct more comprehensive rural development.

"The rural community is the group most loyal to the country, because it enjoys the fruits of this beloved land," he said.

Its loyalty has been demonstrated, he said, and it is very appropriate that the 1990 budget should provide the best possible provisions for this group.

Plans Implemented To Sell A-4 Skyhawks

90OG0067B Jakarta *TEKNOLOGI & STRATEGI MILITER* in Indonesian Nov 89 p 68

[Text] Malaysia intends to sell the 35 A-4 Skyhawk fighter planes which are currently being repaired in Tucson, Arizona. Minister of Defense Tengku [Sir] Ahmad Rithauddeen said that the Malaysian RMAF [Royal Malaysian Air Force] is selling these planes because they are no longer needed.

Lieut Gen Tan Sri [Sir] Mohamed Ngah Said, RMAF Chief of Staff, said that the Air Force cannot foresee any further use for the Skyhawks and has recommended to the government that the 35 A-4 fighters no longer be used.

The RMAF expects to continue operating their A-4PTM planes until 1995, but a source said those planes need to be refurbished.

The RMAF has 88 A-4 planes which it purchased from the United States Navy in 1980 and has already refurbished 40 of them. However, after five planes crashed, the last one in October 1988, the RMAF took all of its A-4s out of service to be inspected. Twelve A-4s have been back in operation since the beginning of July 1989.

Crime Rate Declines 19.12 Percent

90OG0080A Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 7 Nov 89 p 5

[Text] Kuala Kubu Baharu, 6 November—The crime rate for the first 9 months of this year declined by 19.12 percent from the figure reported for the same period last year.

Datuk Haji Wan Sidek Haji Wan Abdul Rahman, who heads the Home Affairs Ministry (KDN) Secretariat, said the decrease in crime proves that the police force has carried out its mission effectively.

"The decrease was also evident in the figures reported during the Commonwealth Heads of Governments Meeting (CHOGM) held in Kuala Lumpur recently," he said when speaking at the inauguration of the First Senior Command Course of 1989 at the Police Academy here today.

Twenty-five senior police officers from ASEAN nations and Hong Kong are attending the 1-month course.

During the course, Datuk Haji Wan Sidek said, the participants will examine their joint interests, especially the safeguarding of national security.

"Although the life-styles of the participating nations differ, the police have the same goal, that of ensuring national security," he added.

He said the mission of the police today is not only to enforce the laws but also to handle other tasks arising from ongoing developments.

Study Underway

"In Malaysia, for instance, 422 policemen have been assigned as tourist police, and a study is underway on forming a separate Tourist Police Unit, principally for duty in tourism areas," he explained.

Concerning drugs, he said everyone must think about measures that should be taken to control them effectively, including those that might contravene drug smuggling because it has been proved that drugs have a bad effect on the people and the nation.

In this country, Datuk Haji Wan Sidek said, 2,650.79 kg of various types of drugs were confiscated in the first 9 months of this year.

Lao, Vietnamese Goods Dominate Province Market

90OG0071C Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai
17 Oct 89 pp 7, 8

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] A news report from Mukdahan Province stated that since the border with Laos was opened in accord with the prime minister's policy of transforming the battlefield into a marketplace, Mukdahan, which is located across the Mekong River from Savannakhet Province in Laos, has been flooded with goods from Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

Most of the goods are cheap consumer goods and decorative items of poor quality. Such goods include large towels approximately 1.5 meters long, which can be used to cover short people or children and which cost about 55 baht each; washcloths, which cost 20 baht per dozen; flannel, which is advertised as coming from the Soviet Union or Eastern Europe and which costs 20 baht per meter; cloth for making pants, which is said to be animal skin but which does not look very good and which costs 50-60 baht per meter; and men's seamless undershirts, which cost 12-15 baht apiece.

Scissors, cups, bowls, pans, and aluminum pots all cost about half as much as those made in Thailand. But you have to bargain.

Vietnamese ceramics are now very popular. There are ceramics in the shape of elephants and lions, vases, tea sets with flowers or animals, stools, furniture inlaid with mother-of-pearl, and rugs the size of those made in Thailand or those imported from other countries. These items are 30-50 percent cheaper. They are purchased by tourists visiting Mukdahan or small merchants. [passage omitted]

Besides this, you can also find silverware. The silverware is said to come from Laos and is at least 20-30 percent cheaper than Thai silverware. But the sellers often bring silverware from the central region and sell it along the border, saying that Lao silverware is not as shiny. Recently, the amount of silverware from Laos has declined. Most of the silverware sold here is from Bangkok.

At the open-air market in Mukdahan, the merchants who sell food are often Vietnamese refugees who have lived in the area for a long time. These people are wealthier than Thai merchants or the Lao merchants who sneak across the border to do business here. Many of the restaurants belong to Vietnamese.

Much of the food consumed by the people of Mukdahan comes from Laos. The Vietnamese transport goods through Laos to Thailand. Such items include crab, which cost only 30 baht per kg as compared with 70-100 baht for Thai crab. But the villagers call these "war survivor" crabs, because most of them are small with little meat. You have to be very careful when selecting them if you want a crab with good meat.

The same is true for the shrimp. These shrimp have large heads and little meat. But they are edible, and they are fresher than those sent from Bangkok. There are various kinds of vegetables and fruit, which are said to come from Laos or Vietnam.

Much of the timber comes from Laos. Some of the deniers are arrested, but in many cases officials turn a blind eye. Thus, furniture makers still have a steady supply of lumber. There are many high-quality hardwoods, such as ormosia, rosewood, and "sathon" wood.

Some of the timber merchants from Laos make as much as 30-40 million baht. But they do not take the money back to Laos. Instead, they secretly deposit it in a bank in Mukdahan, such as Bangkok Bank or the Thai Farmers Bank. Some of the Lao merchants deposit as much as 30 million baht in a single bank, such as Bangkok Bank.

The reason why these merchants don't want to take their money back to Laos is that they are afraid that their profits will be siphoned off by the government. Moreover, the value of the kip is not stable. The inflation rate is approximately 40 percent. If they changed their money into kip, the value of their money would drop rapidly. Thus, they prefer to hold baht.

A news source said that recently, the three-four commercial banks in Mukdahan have not been competing for deposits. This is because deposits are now very good because of the high volume of trade with Laos and Vietnam. The economy here has expanded in keeping with that of the country as a whole.

However, there are still security problems. In particular, Lao and Vietnamese continue to flee across the border into Thailand using forged I.D. cards. Or they use the name of a Thai who has died but whose death has not been reported. Instead, people allow Vietnamese to use the name of the deceased. Because of this, administrative officials in Mukdahan still have to work very hard.

Editorial: Chatchai's Cambodia Policy Not Working

90OG0071A Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 28 Oct 89 p 5

[Excerpts] Gen Chatchai Chunhawan, the prime minister, continues to try and find a way to bring peace to Cambodia. He began this just after he became prime minister 1 year ago. [passage omitted]

We feel that Gen Chatchai has good intentions but that his timing is wrong. In trying to solve the Cambodia problem, Gen Chatchai has tried to do everything himself. The military and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have had a hard time keeping up. He met with Deng Xiaoping, but it is uncertain what China's attitude toward Cambodia will be.

Speaking diplomatically, Mr Deng Xiaoping said that he supports peace in Cambodia. This statement won support for China, and this reduced the importance of Gen Chatchai. People now support China's line. Everyone in

the world knows that only three countries—the United States, China, and the Soviet Union—can determine Cambodia's fate. If these three giants reach an agreement, Cambodia will have to do as they say.

Gen Chatchai should re-evaluate the situation and accept the fact that his efforts are the efforts of a "small fry." All his efforts have generated interest, but they have not changed things. [passage omitted]

Chawalit Comments on Economic, Political, Corruption Problems

90OG0071B Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 29 Oct 89 p 3

[Speech by Army Commander in Chief General Chawalit Yongchaiyut on 28 October 1989 at Sripatum University graduation]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In my view, poverty is still a basic problem. There is still a huge income gap. The government must solve this problem. It must have a firm policy line. Those who say that we have a definite policy should take another look and see if it is really clear or if it is still changing.

The achievements of the government in the past period are of great importance. The government of Gen Chatchai has worked very hard, and we have supported it fully. In particular, the army has worked hard to build peace and security and develop the country. I told the prime minister that he can do anything. He said that he will work to improve things. He can do this. And if he succeeds in improving things, he will be a national hero. Every problem can be solved.

Problems tied to our economic structure can be solved. There have been struggles and problems before, which have caused misunderstandings. That is, when talking about corruption, you can't name names regardless of whether it is a businessman who is concerned only about himself, a worthless politician, or a dishonest soldier. We can't criticize them. We can't criticize well-known MPs. That is not the important thing today. Instead, we must solve the systemic problems. If the regulations say that all you can spend in an election is 350,000, then that is the limit. How can you blame honest people? Politicians and others may spend varying amounts or compete with each other. As for spending money, that is something that I can't believe and will not believe for as long as I live.

He has said that he will run again in the future. I don't know when the next election will be. It costs about 5-10 million baht per person. I don't think I can do that. Let's not think about the bad things. It's the systemic problems that must be solved. If the system is bad, let's fix the

system. In my view, the country's main problems are the economic problems. Poverty is still a problem, but the army does not have the capabilities to solve this problem. Its duty is to maintain the peace and preserve the nation's sovereignty and independence. Everyone can see that we have built up the nation and established friendly relations with our neighbors. The goal of the military is to eliminate poverty in the rural areas. What we have done is to establish organizations to help solve this problem. Another important role is to build up the country and turn it into a prosperous industrial country. We must eliminate poverty. The most important condition is that the country must be a democracy with the king at the head.

Speaking about democracy, things are very complex, because Thais have strange ideas. For example, Thais think that all that is required is to hold elections and have a parliament. They think that holding elections and having a parliament means that we have a democracy. Thais think that holding an election means that we must have a prime minister. They think that if someone serves as prime minister for 7-8 years, then we are not a democracy. Take Gen Prem, for example. People accused him of being undemocratic. Thais think that if the country is governed by a single political party, that is not democratic. Thais don't understand that given the country's environment, people may come to trust one party and vote overwhelmingly for that party. But Thais don't think like that. They think that there must be at least two parties.

Thais have failed to realize that democracy depends on who is master of the country and who wields real administrative power—businessmen, politicians, foreigners, money, or the people. It is the people who must play a role in governing the country to ensure that every group is treated fairly. Why don't people think of this? This is what democracy is all about. This must be discussed widely, and people must be made to understand what the heart of the matter really is.

It has been asked if the country is now a democracy. If it is, the army will support this, because the army remembers the past. It's not a matter of waving the flag of democracy. What is the use of waving this flag if you don't really understand why you are waving it? A little while later, you will just start waving another flag if it is bigger. Thus, we must be careful. But if the country is not a democracy, people should speak up so that we can correct things. This is vitally important to the nation and country.

We should be happy that we were born in this country. We can curse each other. Or if he don't know what else to do, we can criticize each other in the newspapers. We can do strange things. That's all right. We are all Thais.

POLITICAL

Interview With Nguyen Co Thach

902E0088A Paris SUDESTASIE in French
No 59, Oct 89 pp 17-19

[Interview with Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnam's vice-prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, by Professor Joyaux, date and place not given. Francois Joyaux is a university professor and author, among other works, of "The New Far-East Question." The second volume of the latter, "The Era of the Sino-Soviet Conflict, 1959-1978", has just been published by Editions Payot.]

[Text] [Joyaux] Mr Minister, both the domestic and foreign-affairs situation in Vietnam has greatly changed over the last few years. One of the things that strikes me today in Hanoi is the insistent talk of opening up. What does this policy of openness consist of?

[Thach] You know, Vietnam has had the doors closed to it for 40 years. Today conditions are such that the doors could no longer be closed. That is a great change for us. Given today's international life, no country can live any longer turned in on itself. In our case, we never wanted to. But now everyone wants to cooperate with us. More and more foreigners are coming to Hanoi.

Vietnam's level of development is very low: you see that very well when you look around you, here in Hanoi. What we want is to take advantage of the level of activity of the international economy. The world market is increasingly becoming a large single market: this should help Vietnam develop. Our country cannot rely solely on its own economy.

[Joyaux] More concretely, an open-door economic policy presupposes normal and even very close financial relations with foreign states, and particularly with Western states. Vietnam has defaulted on payments to several creditors. How do you overcome that obstacle?

[Thach] Vietnam has made very great strides in the fight against inflation: It has undertaken significant monetary and financial reforms. You who follow Vietnamese affairs closely are well aware of this.

But most important, Vietnam has agreed with the International Monetary Fund on a three-point program: a single-price system, the adoption of a single, floating exchange rate, and rigorous management of credit and interest rates. All of that has been decided.

Economic reforms still need to be put into effect. I am optimistic about that. Look at China: after 10 years of reform, it still has much to do. In 2 years, Vietnam has achieved satisfactory results.

[Joyaux] You mention China yourself, Mr Minister. Do you consider the Chinese and Soviet experiences of interest to Vietnam?

[Thach] The key problem in international economic relations, you know, is the payment system. And also the question of prices. We are mainly concerned with that.

[Joyaux] As part of your open-door policy, you seek to attract more foreign investment to Vietnam. Are the results encouraging? Is the legal framework you set up adequate?

[Thach] We adopted a Foreign Investment Code with which you are familiar. Then we published application guidelines. But it is still insufficient. Moreover, we are going to publish new guidelines to complete those provisions.

But there are other inadequacies we are trying to remedy. For example, the problem of infrastructures. Or the energy problem. Several years ago, as you well know, electrical shut-downs were common when you came to Hanoi. Now there are no more and the problem will be completely resolved at the beginning of the nineties.

But I think for foreign investments, the crucial question is inflation and currency. In that area, the situation is improving greatly.

[Joyaux] What you were saying about energy prompts me to ask you another question: What are the truly high-priority sectors in your economic policy?

[Thach] There are three or four. First, agriculture and agro-food industries. Our people must be properly fed. But we must also develop our consumer and light industries. Finally, we must increase our export activities. To which must be added, however, all the infrastructures demanded by these three priorities.

[Joyaux] Before arriving in Hanoi, I stopped over in Bangkok and noted there was a lot of talk about Vietnam there. Here I see a lot of Thais and note that people talk a lot about Thailand. What role can that country play in your development?

[Thach] Thus far we have accepted, within certain limits, the Thai currency, the baht, as a base currency. That's all. And we hope that if Thailand exports to Vietnam, it won't export its inflation! But we are open to all countries.

[Joyaux] On just that point, what respective roles can be played by states or groups of states, such as the EEC, Japan or the United States, in Vietnam's development?

[Thach] We are ready to cooperate with all states without distinction. What is necessary is that exchanges be based on reciprocal interest. We are open to all.

[Joyaux] Including France?

[Thach] Of course. Especially France. There has already been a "failed peace" with you. We must not miss a new opportunity. France can play a key role in facilitating our

relations with the EEC. It is absolutely essential that we seize the opportunity of France's presidency during this second half of 1989.

[Joyaux] I would like to conclude, Mr Minister, with a question that comes up repeatedly in France and Europe when Vietnam is discussed: Can the Vietnamese economic reform succeed without deep-seated political reform? Events in Peking clearly show that the two questions are closely linked.

[Thach] There is no question that economic reform must be accompanied by political reform. For example, during its industrial revolution Europe separated economic and political powers, and reduced federal powers. A bourgeois class, a body of business law, etc. emerged.

Likewise, economic reform in Vietnam has considerable political significance. For instance, everything was very centralized: planning, economic and political power. Now we have to separate those two powers. We must advance democratization. The National Assembly, mass organizations, must carry more weight. Without this democratization, economic reform could not succeed.

Further Coverage of Journalists Congress

902E0083A Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG
in Vietnamese 10 Oct 89 pp 1, 2

[Text] On the morning of 16 October 1989 and occasionally during the days before, mass media throughout the country presented news on the Fifth Vietnam Journalists Congress of Delegates to be held in the Ba Dinh Conference Hall. Not counting the 359 attending delegates, representing more than 6,000 members of the Vietnam Journalists Association from Lang Son to Minh Hai, the reader—with just a little insight—can note a few somewhat unusual aspects.

First of all is the location of the congress. Up to this time, the Ba Dinh Conference Hall was known throughout the country as a location usually reserved for the most formal and highest level party and state conferences. Moreover, prior to the Journalists Congress, many fairly important national meetings were held elsewhere than the Ba Dinh Conference Hall.

Even more special, opening on the morning of 16 October 1989, the Vietnam Journalists Congress of Delegates was honored to receive five important members of the Political Bureau, Do Muoi, Nguyen Thanh Binh, Nguyen Duc Tam, Dao Duy Tung and Nguyen Co Thach, and many Party Central Committee members and ministers. Additionally, along with the invited guests, there were also official representatives of the International Journalists Organization (OIJ) and the Soviet Union, Laos and Cambodia, and nearly all of the broadcast and television correspondents from various countries present in Hanoi

"The Government Is Your Rear Area"

Applause resounded throughout the hall when Do Muoi stressed this statement. The presence of high-level party leaders at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall and the close attention of the international correspondents expressed one hope: that the Vietnamese press corps continue to renovate, though now only in the initial stage; renovation for the renovation of the country of socialist Vietnam.

A Frank Congress

In evaluating a congress—especially one of journalists—possibly one should not look solely at the official summarization report. This document was openly announced. It is also unnecessary to examine the delegate structure such as age, gender, cultural levels, ethnic components, etc. These factors are not enough. An important element felt by the 359 delegates was the dignified but relaxed atmosphere. It is not an exaggeration to state it was a congress with the most straightforward delegates ever. Even during the morning of the preparatory congress, the delegates quickly approved a few opinions on "structural" measures in election of the Fifth Executive Committee. While examining the official delegate qualifications of a colleague from Minh Hai Province who was elected in accordance with procedures, 100 percent of the delegates agreed to certify that he was sufficiently qualified.

Right during the day of initial discussions, 17 October 1989, the frankness began with discussions by delegates who were correspondents and leading cadres from the newspapers LAI CHAU, NGHE TINH and SAIGON GIAI PHONG, the Voice of Vietnam, and the newspaper TUAN TIN TUC. The distressing circumstances and impoverishment of journalists, "almost backbreaking" struggles against negativism, worry and fear over deviation, excessive optimism over the press renovation situation, etc., appeared in many different tunes. It could be noted that the more frank and serious the discussions, the more those taking part were encouraged.

Everyone wanted to delve into those things that will stimulate the press to continue renovation under the leadership of the party.

The straightforwardness of the congress was not only in the discussions concentrating on contributing opinions on policies and positions dealing with the press, and in presenting wishes for improvement of party leadership over the press, but in the severity of the Vietnam press corps itself over its own shortcomings. In the status of the press (or as it is often known, social responsibility, according to delegate Nguyen Uyen from Vinh Phu), occurrences of opportunistic "borrowing the renovation color," shortcomings such as unwholesome tendencies to pursue stories of sensationalism and sex, a lack of courage and purity in struggle, limitations in standards, etc., are all strongly presented. The delegates know that, "Good medicine is bitter to the taste."

Opposing Views

As explained before, the reservation of an important location for the journalists to meet and the enthusiastic participation of high-level leaders was nothing more than an expression of the special concern of the party for the press. For themselves, the delegates also bore many expectations, not because they were allowed to meet in the Ba Dinh Conference Hall spread with splendid red carpets, and not because they had become "dignified members" with touring cars drawn up to meet them. The desire of most of the delegates, as expressed through the discussions, was that the press *continue to renovate*, forming a bridge for exchanging the truth between the people and the party and between the party and the people. Seriously speaking, *the press must be both a voice of the party and a rostrum of the people*.

The applause of the congress for other statements emphasized by Do Muoi expressed the opposition between the two aspirations. The pledge by government leaders to "*quickly supplement and complete our press legal system and urgently legalize and institutionalize press, publishing, cultural, literary, etc. activities*" has shown that renovation of the press cannot be reversed and is becoming increasingly institutionalized. A number of discussions indicated a concern that the press renovation movement is *partially faltering*. However, when party and state leaders meet with the ranks of the revolutionary press with one will, we believe renovation of the press will continue in a more profound and substantial manner, following the correct course set forth by party resolutions.

It was not by chance that Do Muoi asserted to the journalists—soldiers on the ideological front—in the middle of the Ba Dinh Conference Hall, "The government is your rear area."

Veteran NLF Revolutionaries Speak Out

902E0101B Paris QUE ME in Vietnamese
Nov 89 pp 9-10

[Text] The newspaper TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN, or *Former Resistance Fighters Club* in general, first of all is laden with the sentiment of Southerners who have for decades followed and supported Communism.

This southern sentiment is not only expressed in their origin and birthplace: nearly all if not all were born in the south, from the 17th parallel down, and most are from the original six provinces of South Vietnam. This sentiment is also expressed in the grief they feel when observing that since 1975, the South, their beloved homeland, has gradually sunk into a wretched mire.

In a letter from Nguyen Van Tran, former North Vietnamese ambassador in the Soviet Union, to Nguyen Ho, clearly shows that grief. Nguyen Van Tran says, "When Ngo Dinh Diem failed to 'open consultations,' President Ho called the southern cadres to a meeting at 6 Hoang Dieu Street. Vo Nguyen Giap chaired the meeting.

"I attended that meeting and expressed the salient opinion that:

"The situation was one of a country divided into two parts, each with its own strategic mission. Therefore, it was necessary to have two (named) parties and two fronts.

"When the meeting broke up, Vo Nguyen Giap embraced me.

"Now, on the anniversary of the South Vietnamese National Liberation Front, I remember.

"To remember means to regret. If only reunification of the country Could have been put forward for widespread discussion. Alas! we know our country has had three reunifications: those of Nguyen Hue Gia Long, and Truong Chinh. My advise was not to be hasty. But there was no opportunity to speak. I only knew how to scream. And today, there is no more screaming, because the sky is as high as the ear is thick. Count and consider the 300 words, stating my remembrance of the green and red flag, and my love for my South" (TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN Dec 1988).

Nguyen Van Tran has aged, being nearly 80, and his writing is slightly clumsy and stiff but when read, the boundless grief is still evident. It resembles the words of someone presenting condolences.

In the letter of Nguyen Van Tran were three details worthy of attention:

The first detail is the regret of Nguyen Van Tran. That sentence is not entirely clear. It is not known precisely what Nguyen Van Tran regrets; was it concerning his suggestion about the organization of two (named) parties and two fronts to resist and occupy the South; or that the Political Bureau did not continue to maintain those two organizations after 75?

The second detail concerns the hurried reunification of the country during 1976. That reunification, to Nguyen Van Tran, was a painful calamity. He lamented, "Alas!"

The third detail lies in the final sentence of the 300-word letter, and is extremely special: "stating my remembrance of the green and red flag, and my love for my South".

The green and red flag was the flag of the South Vietnam National Liberation Front.

Despite the obscurity, the letter above with the viewpoint of Nguyen Van Tran and probably not of him alone, is fairly clear: his grief upon seeing the South, after 1975, sinking into wretchedness and decay; his disappointment of a life of following the Communist Party until finally the homeland is destroyed; his resentment toward the dictatorship, dogmatism, and unscrupulousness of the Hanoi leaders; and his mourning for an age of intoxication with the great but specially accumulated ideals of his South.

The viewpoints above strengthen the credibility of believers in the serious contradiction in the communist ranks at the present time; and the contradiction between the party members and cadres of southern extraction and those of northern extraction.

Of course, it cannot be hurriedly concluded that the views of Nguyen Van Tran and the Ho Chi Minh City Former Resistance Fighters Club bear a spirit of parochialism and localism. If this is so, it would be impossible to explain the occurrence of large numbers of cadres and party members from the North who have supported their position.

Most representative of that support was the letter written by Le Giang from Hanoi to Tran Van Tra and published in the Dec 88 issue of TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN:

"Upon returning to Hanoi from Ho Chi Minh City, I had a story to tell about the activities of the Former Resistance Fighters Club in Saigon to a number of friends in the capital. Your vitality and great initiative are a shining example to us in Hanoi. You also know that the legacy of feudalism in the North, including the capital of Hanoi, is still very heavy. Only by expanding democratization is it possible to sever that harmful legacy. The dissemination of your special hopes in Hanoi has further contributed toward the democratization of that city. It is hoped that you can reserve a page for us called the *Hanoi Page*. Would that be possible? I am thinking about suggesting that you examine the gradual expansion of the Former Resistance Fighters Club of Ho Chi Minh City into a Club of Former Resistance Fighters of also Hanoi and Hue with the center in Ho Chi Minh City."

Not only in concurrence, Le Giang also considers the former resistance fighters in Saigon as leaders of the former resistance fighters force throughout the country. This means that everyone must observe the struggle of former resistance fighters in Saigon as not reserved for the South but as really a struggle for democracy on a nationwide scale.

Remember that only since 1945, the South has led three times in this manner.

The first time was during August 1945, when which Japan had just surrendered to the Allies, and Saigon was a place where the people eagerly proceeded down the road first to seize political power.

The second time was in September 1945 when, after only about a month of general uprising, France returned with a plot to restore their former domination and the people struggled furiously to retain political power: the 1945-1954 period of the war of resistance against France began in Saigon on 23 September 1945.

And this is the third time with Saigon again leading the struggle movement; the ideals of the present fight are democracy and freedom.

Background of Resistance Publication Discussed

902E0101A Paris QUE ME in Vietnamese
Nov 89 pp 7-8

[Text] For more than a year, much commotion among overseas refugees has been caused by the fact that a newspaper in Vietnam has dared to publicly attack the Political Bureau and leading cadres of the highest level in the Communist Party: that newspaper is TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN [Resistance War Tradition] of the Former Resistance Fighters Club in Ho Chi Minh City.

What is the Former Resistance Fighters Club?

It is an organization of participants in the Viet Minh (1941-1954) and South Vietnam Liberation Front (1960-1975). This organization was formed 3 years ago following a decision of the Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee on 16 May 1986, aimed at an objective of assembling the forces of former resistance fighters for mutual spiritual and material encouragement and assistance, and to record and collect data relating to the history of the struggle of the Communist Party in the city.

The club, with Nguyen Ho as a chairman, concentrates a fairly large number of the best known cadres and party members in the south. On the military side, there are Senior Lieutenant General Tran Van Tra, Lieutenant General Nam Long, Major General To Ky, Major General Dao Duy Kham, etc. The civilian side includes Tran Van Giau, Nguyen Van Tran, Huynh Van Tieng, etc.

The club has a great many members, assembled along two lines: a local line using the district level as the base with a club of former resistance fighters from the 1st, 3d, 4th, 5th, etc. precincts. The other line follows their former specialities: a club of former resistance fighters from the armed, security, military proselyting, intellectual proselyting, etc. fields.

In the middle of 1988, the Club Management Board suggested the club's name be changed to the *Former Resistance Fighters Association* to emphasize the social and political status of the organization. The reasoning was that the word club gives the appearance of an organization slanted toward recreational and entertainment activities. This suggestion was rejected.

The voice of the Former Resistance Fighters Club is the newspaper TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN.

Calling it a newspaper is not entirely correct. It consists only of special irregularly published issues and its fortune was also extremely short with only three issues from the middle to the end of 1988.

The first issue was named TRUYEN THONG [Tradition] (with no mention of resistance fighters), accompanied by the line, "Newsletter of the Ho Chi Minh City Former Resistance Fighters Club," and had eight pages in A4 size (21 x 29.7 centimeters). This issue clearly stated

its license 72/VHTT-GPI, dated 21 May 1988, from the Ho Chi Minh City Culture and Information Service, although there was no issue number, publication date, editor's office, or editor noted in the paper. The contents of TRUYEN THONG entirely and correctly followed the orthodox viewpoint of the Communist Party and was slanted toward unilateral praise. The articles were of a documentary nature with nothing special.

The second issue, published in September 1988 with the name changed to TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN, was special issue 23.9 with Nguyen Ho named as its chief, the address of its editor's office as 24/1 Truong Dinh in the 3rd Precinct, and with 16 pages of the same A4 size as noted above. Below the name were the words, "*Voice of the Saigon-Gia Dinh Former Resistance Fighters*". The change from Ho Chi Minh City to Saigon-Gia Dinh was probably not accidental. The contents of the newspaper differed entirely from the first issue. The editorial proclaimed that, "*TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN is a forum of struggle for the movement of renovation, democracy, openness and resolute resistance to conservatism, idleness, bureaucratism, authoritarianism, dictatorship, attacks on and oppression of the people, opportunism, flattery and avarice.*" Following this position, a number of articles concentrated on criticizing occurrences of injustice and repression of human rights, especially in the rural area. An article by AK, (*Meeting a Number of Farmers in Cuu Long*), criticized the ranks of degenerate cadres and party members after 1975 who became "*red bourgeoisie*" knowing only about "*personal arrangement, theft of public property and bribery with many blatant and inhumane cases*", (*Downgrade and Downgrade*, an article by Le Quang Dinh), a report on straightforward statements by former resistance fighters aimed at criticizing the regime, (*A Symposium*, an article by Chinh Nhan), etc.

According to Nayan Chanda in the 5 October 1989 issue of FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, the first printing of this issue was confiscated. Unshaken, the editorial board reprinted the issue in Hau Giang Province for secret distribution within the club in Ho Chi Minh City and also in many other localities, including Hanoi.

The third issue, the last as we understand it, carried the same name but the subtitle stated only, "*the Voice of Resistance Fighters*," meaning a loss of the words "former" and "Saigon-Gia Dinh." This change probably had two meanings. One is that the editorial board was affirming its stand of continued resistance during the present period and secondly, indicating a trend toward expanding forces throughout the country. This conjecture is entirely with foundation: in this issue was a letter from Le Giang in Hanoi expressing sympathy with the newspaper TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN and emphasizing the "*hope that your special issue is disseminated in Hanoi to further contribute toward democratization in Hanoi.*" (page 4).

The third issue of the newspaper was printed in Hau Giang and also contained 16 pages but the size had been increased to double the previous issues to a tabloid level, equivalent to A3 (29 x 41 centimeters), and the articles were rich and especially strong. The criticism was not only general but also aimed straight at the issue of human affairs, directly attacked the aged and weak, conservative and stupid components of the Political Bureau, requested the dismissal and prosecution of Minister of Finance Hoang Quy, Vice Minister of Finance Tran Tieu, Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry Nguyen Cong Tan, Director of the State Bank Lu Minh Chau, and State Price Commission Director Phan Van Tiem. This third issue therefore was extremely harsh, probably the harshest ever in the country's trend of criticism and self-criticism in the open press.

New Uniforms for People's Police Forces

902E0085A Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 18 Oct 89 p 3

[Text] Implementing Council of Ministers Decree No 67 of 16 June on the use of uniforms in the Vietnam People's Police Forces, on 7 October, the Ministry of Interior issued regulations on the use of regular uniforms by People's Police Forces. According to a notice issued by the People's Police General Department, the new uniforms will be worn by policemen in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and personnel of the People's Police General Department starting 10 October 1989. The new uniforms will go into use nationwide starting on 1 January 1990.

1. Color and style of the spring-summer uniform:

a. Traffic and public order policemen and public security forces:

Men will wear short-sleeved shirts made of "cat-pho" cloth. The shirt will have a high collar and two breast pockets. They will wear light-colored European-style pants made of "cat-pho" cloth. The pants will have two pockets and two red stripes 1.5 mm from the hem to the cuff.

Women will wear bright silver-colored short-sleeved shirts made of "cat-pho" cloth. The shirt will have a turned-down collar and two outside pockets. The pants will have two red stripes.

b. Mobile policemen:

The pants and shirt will be made of green-colored "cat-pho" cloth with camouflage prints (striped cloth). The shirt will be sewn in the "blu-dong" style with long sleeves and buttons. The pants will be made in the usual European style with two pockets.

c. Other police forces, both male and female:

The pants and shirt will be made of light-colored "cat-pho" cloth in a style similar to that of the uniform worn by traffic and public order policemen.

2. Color and style of the autumn-winter uniforms:

a. People's police officers (except for mobile policemen) will wear light-colored uniforms made of "cat-pho" cloth. The "vet-tong" shirts will have two inside pockets and a turned-down collar. The back half of the collar and the two sleeves will have a 1.5 mm red stripe. Traffic and public order policemen and subprecinct public security forces will wear bright silver-colored shirts. Other policemen will wear white shirts.

b. Non-commissioned officers and privates (except for mobile policemen) will wear light-colored uniforms made of "cat-pho" cloth. The shirts will have a high collar, four buttons, two inside chest pockets, and pocket flaps.

c. Mobile police officers will wear green camouflaged uniforms with four pockets and unfastened ties. The autumn-winter uniforms of mobile non-commissioned officers and privates will be similar in style to their spring-summer uniforms.

3. Ties will be made of dark green "ot-pho" cloth. While on duty, people's police officers wearing the autumn-winter uniform must fasten their ties.

Only enterprises subordinate to the Ministry of Interior and production installations authorized by the Ministry of Interior or provincial-level public security units that have signed contracts can produce people's police uniforms. It is strictly forbidden to illegally produce, store, buy or sell, trade, circulate, or use people's police uniforms.

Former Resistance Fighters Criticize Current Conditions

902E0102 Paris QUE ME in Vietnamese
Nov 89 pp 13-15

[Text] During 1988, the Club for Former Resistance Fighters in Ho Chi Minh City held two important public seminars aimed at criticizing the human rights violations and ineffective national leadership of the Political Bureau since 1975.

The first seminar was held on 18 September 1988 in the Ho Chi Minh City Revolutionary Museum with a topic of "Revolutionary Traditions and the Current Conditions of the Country", assembling more than 80 individuals, nearly all of them veteran cadres and party members who once held important positions in the so-called South Vietnam Liberation Front and Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam.

The seminar lasted from 0800 to 1700 in a tense atmosphere described by Chinh Nhan in the 23 September issue of the newspaper TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN, "The bright eyes and rough features of each individual failed to conceal apprehension over the hazardous national situation."

Below, we wish to quote intact the full description of Chinh Nhan:

I. On the Life of the Farmer:

Many opinions warn that "the people of the North are hungry and dying from starvation. Hunger is widespread and serious. Even the districts of Binh Chanh and Duyen Hai in Ho Chi Minh City are suffering from hunger." Maj. Gen. To Ky presented one image, "Despite deep plowing and careful harrowing, the farmers are emaciated and there is no rice in the home." Closely connected with the hunger is oppression. Huynh Van Tam stated, "For more than 2 months already, the farmers of Cuu Long, Long An, and Tien Giang have thronged by the hundreds into the city to present their hopes to the Central Committee. Now the fishermen of Thuan Hai are following suit. They are being forced into production collectives and cooperatives and those who do not enter often have their nets confiscated. Some are imprisoned and only released when they agree to enter." Dr. Tran Huu Nghiep recalled a poem prior to the August Revolution to illustrate the rural area at the present time:

"If soldiers wish to arrest you, they sweep in and do so, When an arrest is desired, an order is issued."

Many men and women ask the question, "The farmers have followed the party since its founding. Now that they are being caused such miserable hardship, where is the conscience of Communism."

On Educational Policy:

Everyone can see that education has reached a crisis. Teacher Nguyen Van Hoi described the picture of the teacher at the present time, "Standing in class: hand writing, mouth speaking, and legs trembling from hunger." As the students follow the curriculum with their eyes, one need not know whether they understand or not. At the end of the year, 90 percent must be advanced in grade so all types of surgery must be performed. While checking grades, the teacher must make constant revisions to the records. If insufficient, they must be counterfeited. The result is that during the period of examinations for advancement to Level 10 during the 1987-1988 school year, part of the truth was revealed:

—Literature: 13.31 percent of the students had an average high enough for advancement.

—Mathematics: 17.6 percent had an average high enough to advance.

Of more than 41,000 students examined, in the mathematics alone, there were:

—12,000 students with zero (0) points.

—8,000 students with one (1) point

In the college admission examinations, 6 percent of students throughout the south had the required average. In the city, 7 percent of the students had the necessary average.

The education budget is the lowest in the world: 4.5 percent of the national budget.

To help Vietnamese education at the present time, at least 20 percent of the national budget must be invested. To Ky has accused that, "The policy is extremely reactionary because it eliminates the source of the nation's future."

III. On Democracy and Law

We are usually proud of our democratic centralism with its principle of the "minority obeying the majority." However, it is not really that way. Le Van Dang (2 Dang) said, "At times, the minority obeys the majority, and at other times, the majority obeys the minority." Depending on the situation, the term has been turned into a tool for such designs as the nomination and election of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers in the recent Party Central Committee Plenum and National Assembly.

Therefore, state law has become a democratic ornament. Every task is obeyed in accordance with a secret law without openness or democracy.

In Vietnam, there are many strange stories. Senior Lt. Gen. Tran Van Tra stated angrily, "The Vietnamese aircraft accident in Bangkok on 9 September 1988 was extremely embarrassing. On the next day, the Bangkok press published a roster of the victims but nothing has been said here yet, and no information is considered normal by the people." Le Van Thanh testified, "UNESCO has appealed for the complete elimination of illiteracy by the year 2000. Vietnam still has 8 million illiterate people. On 2 August 1988, Chairman Vo Chi Cong called on the people to participate in eliminating illiteracy. On 21 August 1988, those formerly engaged in dissemination of the national language met and wrote a letter to the Chairman of the Council of State, the Municipal Party Committee, the People's Committee, and various departments and sectors of the city, volunteering to contribute and requesting restoration of the National Language Dissemination Association. To this time, not one reply, either yes or no, has been received. Why?" Nguyen Ho said, "After more than 13 years since liberation on 30 April 1975, Vietnam still has no Veterans' Association. This is unacceptable in a country that has experienced 30 years of resistance war against invading imperialists and has won glorious victory. The freedom of the citizen is being seriously violated despite the fact that Article 67 of the Constitution stipulates, 'The citizen has the right of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom to form a society, and freedom of expression, consistent with the interests of society and the people'" and he asserted, "Anyone who restrains these rights or acts otherwise is in violation of the Constitution; no one is larger than the

National Assembly, and no regulations may supersede the Constitution." Journalist Ho Ngoc Nhuan contributed his opinion, "In the election law in my opinion, Article 1 is correct but Article 2 is indistinct. Voting is a right but how is it possible when accompanied by a set of abstract qualifications? Who checks these qualifications?" Also because of inconsistent laws, there are many arbitrary and irrational aspects in the tax, price, and wage proposals. Maj. Gen. Dao Son Tay asked, "Why has the price of gasoline risen from 400 to 800 dong per liter without an explanation? The 1985 prices, wages, and money, and a number of recent decisions have caused production to stagnate and the lives of the masses to become arduous. Who is responsible?" Dr. Tran Huu Nghiep attested, "It is also due to such actions that during the first 6 months of 1988, foreign countries invested only 300 million U.S. dollars in Vietnam while investing 5 billion 500 million in Thailand."

1. The Apparatus and Personnel:

Why does the situation above exist? The seminar brought up the causes and presented corrective measures.

Nearly 2 years after the Sixth Party Congress, the organization and personnel affairs apparatus remains the same. Nearly everyone thinks that, "It is this very feudal court thinking in the name of Communism that has created bureaucratism and state subsidization, umbrella partisanship, the struggle for power, profit, and position, etc., exhausting the nation for the past 13 years." It is also this very thinking that makes one always feel "extremely skilled, talented, fierce, etc., creating arrogance, insolent and increasing difficulty." Dr. Tran Huu Nghiep lamented, "Self-satisfaction and constantly thinking that one is right creates extreme harm."

Another part is because cadres do not differentiate clearly between the party and individual leaders. Senior Lt. Gen. Tran Van Tra declared, "Throughout our lives, we have fought for the ideals of communism and have a firm belief in the party. However, we do not believe in a number of leaders who have failed to complete their mission or to properly carry out their role. Do not relate the party to one individual—even though one of the highest leaders—or to one group of people."

To achieve the resolution of the Sixth Party Congress, nearly everyone demands a change in the apparatus and personnel, first of all the Central Committee. Pham Khai (3 ka) stressed, "It is necessary to get rid of old, weak, and conservative thinking, and to make replacements in apparatus and personnel before renovation is possible and public confidence is restored."

Those Detached From the People Must Return

The saying is to "Use the people as the supporting base." However, actions are isolated from the people with no responsibility for their suffering. Local tyranny and neodespotism is becoming widespread. There is no reliance on the workers, farmers, troops, intellectuals, etc.,

but only connivance with negative, opportunist, and monopolistic officials, and harboring of dishonest merchants. From this comes the corrupt reporting of "true losses, false profits" that is prevalent.

The second seminar that QUE ME first announced overseas in Issue 99, held on 13 November 1988 in the meeting hall of the 3rd Precinct Party Committee with more than 700 people attending, was described by Cam Van in the December 1988 issue of TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN. Below is the original text:

The objective of the seminar was to recommend that the party find the reason for unresolved problems after 2 years of implementing the resolution of the Sixth Party Congress. In answer to the party's appeal, no one has been unprepared.

Opening the seminar and on behalf of the management board, Nguyen Ho announced the extraordinary news that the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Central Committee had indicated that the Party Central Committee would not permit the newspaper TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN to continue because the Vietnamese press had become too large and the situation contained many complex difficulties. Even the seminar today must be temporarily suspended. There were even anonymous telephone calls warning the seminar "not to make a noise."

Naturally, the seminar need not make a noise because the voices rising from it had the strength of openness and a spirit of responsibility, and it would probably be more correct to state that they were laden with a deep and critical nature. Confronted with the matter above, the entire audience was extremely "surprised" over the opinion that the Vietnamese press had become too large when an entire city of more than 4 million people has only one daily newspaper; the world is exploding with information and no one is able to conceal anything from the people; and the earth is becoming increasingly smaller. Naturally, no one in the meeting hall concurred that the newspaper TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN should be executed, and all voted that "publication of TRUYEN THONG KHANG CHIEN must continue." There was also an opinion to pose the issue of citizen rights in accordance with the Constitution, and surprise at not knowing for whom the bill on freedom of the press was being drafted for and for what purpose when a broad faithful and firm collective, especially one of former resistance fighters, cannot publish a newspaper? As a delegate to the Nationwide Plenum of the Soviet Communist Party stated, "Only a little democracy can be difficult to swallow!"

On the subject of finance, in analyzing achievement of the Sixth Party Congress resolution, many opinions were concentrated around the issues of taxes and local neodespotic tyranny in the rural area, the problem of halfway renovation and encompassing all the issue of human affairs.

Regarding human affairs, many seminar participants agreed with the opinion of Lt. Gen. Nam Long, comparing the resolution of the Sixth Party Congress to a "finely designed plan for building a long-term court" but "with poor and incapable construction ranks, unable to complete the design's mission." Furthermore, veteran revolutionary Tao Ty (La Kim Ly) stated, "One person made serious mistakes in the prices, wages, and money affair but was still appointed to serve as the secretary of the Economic Strategy Board. There are also many still burdened with thinking involving rule of the people and economic work in the Stalinist style who still have key roles in the administration." Tran Cong Tuong contributed an additional impression, "Meditation is needed to recognize fright."

With such human affairs and halfway renovation, there can be no democracy and naturally, encroachment by local neodespotic tyrants is possible, especially in the rural area. The farmers are driven against the wall and must indignantly travel over hill and dale into the city to appeal to the Central Committee. Le Ngoc Xuyen, a cadre in the Science and Technology Sub-Institute remarked, according to Muoi Lua, "Recently, in broad daylight, noting the extreme suffering of relatives protected and sustained by me, I went to visit them and to give them an oil lamp and bit of tobacco but was arrested and jailed for 1 night (the night of 8-9 November 1988)." Muoi Lua stated further that only due to intervention by the 1st Precinct Party Committee was Xuyen released. She then asked: From whom did this order come? At what echelon? Was it a violation of democratic rights or not?

Muoi Lua, Le Tan Duc and several others have reflected many tax situations: "taxes piled on taxes" and "taxes nullifying production and attacking the laborers" until ultimately, because human affairs are not renovated and fail to match the new mission, they become too bureaucratic and conservative. Many have suggested that the Central Committee and especially the National Assembly use the right of impeachment to dismiss ministers, vice ministers and anyone else with serious violations in the execution of the recent detestable tax policies.

MILITARY

Army Trucks Used in Cambodia-Tay Ninh Smuggling Operation

42090010A Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG
in Vietnamese 11 Oct 89

[Editorial Report] The 11 October Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese reported on page 1 that cadres and soldiers belonging to a border defense unit at Moc Bai Pass in Tay Ninh Province recently uncovered a smuggling operation involving two army trucks, one of which belonged to the Rear Services General Department and carried license plate TH 3993.

The trucks were transporting contraband from the Cambodian border to Ho Chi Minh City. The authorities confiscated all the contraband, which included foreign cigarettes, cassette radios, color televisions, VCRs, foreign videotapes, blue jeans, T-shirts from Thailand, cases of "555" brand batteries, lighters, ball point pens, medicine for children, bicycle inner tubes, and cosmetics.

According to an investigation conducted by the Tay Ninh People's Committee and the provincial military and security forces, the operation was organized by "a number of wheeler-dealers and big businessmen" from Ho Chi Minh City who "made connections with the army trucks."

Need for Accurate Training Reports Stressed

902E0096A Hanoi *QUAN DOI NHAN DAN* in Vietnamese 9 Nov 89 p 2

[Text] During the past few years, many improvements have occurred in the movement to renovate combat training, especially in that training themes and methods have been studied and improved along a course giving importance to quality consistent with the practical requirements of the combat, work, and construction mission of the army at the present time.

The combat training task has been confirmed by commanders and staff agencies at all levels as the central mission of military work. Inspection, encouragement and supervision of primary level units by responsible agencies has been carried out regularly and constantly. The combat reporting system has also been more strictly conducted with relatively uniform procedures. Thanks to a firm and constant grasp of the training situation, effective and practical measures have been promptly set forth in the supervision task. Combat training quality during the past few years has taken a step forward.

Nevertheless, in the spirit of looking straight at the truth, we must state emphatically that reporting on the training situation and results still lacks straightforwardness. A widespread occurrence in reporting is untruthfulness in schedule execution and attendance management. Training programs and themes are regularly cut short but reported as complete. The evaluation of training results also fail to precisely match the substance and standards of the troops, with reliance still primarily on the subjective opinion of the commander. For example, according to a training report forwarded to upper echelons by Infantry Group S7 at the conclusion of the 1988 training year, 100 percent of the squads participated in combat marksmanship but an inspection revealed that only 50 percent actually had. In Group B20 of T. Corps (binh doan), the training attendance report of Company 1 stated 78 men but a field inspection revealed only 52. Many discrepancies have also occurred in reporting on the use of training materials. Some units have used training gasoline and oil for economic work or to support daily activities but reported to upper echelons as "fully" and "accurately" accounted for in training subjects.

We all know that training reporting is a procedure in the combat training task. Implementation of this procedure throughout the army is stipulated by the General Staff with the purpose of assisting upper echelon commanders and staff agencies in firmly grasping the training situation of lower echelons; and from that, to set forth measures of close, accurate, and prompt supervision to develop the strengths and allow the monthly and yearly training to properly achieve proposed plans. Training reporting consists of: reports submitted daily, weekly, monthly and after each training subject, period and year of training is completed. The degree of each report theme will differ but must accurately reflect the following key issues:

The first is on achievement of training themes, program schedules, and methods according to the designated plan. This is the key report theme and issue of a lawful nature for which all echelons must be responsible for achieving completely, accurately reporting, and assisting upper level staff agencies in closely following and managing the designated training plan. Reports must also touch upon themes with omissions and subjects still not correctly achieved in accordance with the designated plan, and state the reason for that situation. Themes noticed to be inconsistent with the unit situation and mission are reported to upper echelons to be rationally revised and supplemented. Lower echelon commanders and staff agencies are not permitted to arbitrarily change the plan or fail to fully achieve training themes, programs, schedules or attendance without the consent of upper echelon commanders and staffs. This is also an issue of achieving regular procedures in training.

Second is reporting on the number of troops participating in training. This is of extreme importance, aimed at firmly managing training attendance and quality to assist cadres and men in the receipt of military knowledge and systematic engagement in training and actions. Reports must clearly state the number of personnel participating in each subject each day. Attention must be given to the incomplete or full participation of prospects and components, especially cadres, technicians, and vocational specialists. In reality, many detachments are still allowing their men to abandon training for other jobs, causing the quality of training to decline and the standards of the troops to be uneven.

Third is evaluation of the training day, subject, week, month, etc. Training reports on technical subjects, exercises, and inspections are fairly accurate. However, in other themes such as how much time is spent in achievement, the percentage of participation, how far the training has progressed, the true nature and results of training compared with the combat mission requirements of each detachment, etc., reports usually follow the subjective thinking of the unit commander or the agency supervising the training, and fail to properly reflect the actual situation of the unit.

To accurately and properly report the true nature of the training situation, in our opinion, commanders and training staffs at all levels must:

Strengthen regular inspection and control to ascertain the training situation of detachments. Inspection and control not only assists detachments in strictly implementing training systems and regulations but also gives commanders and responsible agencies a grasp of the situation of every aspect of the units and serves as a basis for making determinations and organizing the use of forces in combat as well as in developing the capabilities and strengths of each unit and detachment in other fields of work. Besides regular inspections, unannounced inspections are necessary to correctly evaluate the true nature of training of each primary level detachment and unit. Prior to an inspection, the unit commander need only be given a preliminary inspection plan. When upper echelon commanders and training staff agencies come down to inspect a unit, the actual situation is used as a basis for designating a number of detachments of that unit to achieve the inspection theme or to immediately inspect the theme and program of the unit engaged in training. Only in this way is it possible to properly evaluate the training results of the unit and at the same time accurately uncover strengths and weaknesses in order to initiate close and correct methods and measures of supervision. To do this, the commander must know how to use and develop the role of the staff agency; to manage and firmly control training attendance, the agency organizes and mobilizes echelons outside its primary mission responsibilities and also assists the commander in supervising the management and use of unit training attendance, and assists lower-echelon commanders in concentrating personnel on the training mission without indiscriminate use, especially use in fatigue and orderly details.

On the other hand, it is necessary to promptly encourage and appropriately reward units strictly implementing combat training instructions and ensuring training attendance and quality. At the same time, strict disciplinary measures must be taken against units and individuals failing to fully execute the training themes, programs, schedules and plans of upper echelons, or intentionally submitting erroneous reports that deceive upper echelons and adversely affect the training quality of the army. Only in this manner will the upper-echelon commander and staff agency acquire accurate information when a report is received.

In the spirit of looking directly at and stating the truth, let commanders and training staffs at all levels be straightforward in reporting the training situation of their units. This is not a simple task because of many other factors related to unit training achievements and traditions, and the evaluation of upper echelons concerning the units, especially the individual commander. It must be clearly recognized that straightforwardness is not only a quality and honor of a revolutionary cadre but the flesh and blood responsibility of commanders at all levels to their men.

Erroneous reports, for material gain or "competition," should not be submitted, and lead to distorted evaluation by upper echelons that harm lower echelons and uselessly waste flesh and blood in combat. Commanders and training staffs at all levels must truly consider the training mission to raise the combat strength of the troops as the central and key mission; and initiate measures to concentrate leadership, regularly maintain close contact with units to actively organize strict compliance with training themes, programs, schedules, attendance, etc.; and strengthen methods of inspecting, managing, and encouraging detachments to execute the proposed training plan.

Benefits for Demobilized Soldiers Outlined

902E0081A Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Oct 89 p 2

[Text] Question: What are the conditions required for servicemen to receive benefits based on the demobilized soldiers policy? How is the period of service of soldiers calculated, and how is the demobilization allowance calculated? Nguyen Minh Phuong and Bui Thi Hong, Thong Nhat Printing Plant, Hanoi.

Answer: As for the conditions necessary to receive benefits based on the demobilization policy, according to the stipulations in Decision No 178/CP of 20 July 1974, Decision No 281/CP of 1 September 1980 of the Council of Ministers, and Directive No 333/CT of 2 December 1983 of the president of the Council of Ministers, the following servicemen are eligible to receive benefits based on the demobilization policy:

Male soldiers who have served in the military for at least 5 years (60 months).

Female soldiers who have served in the military for at least 3 years (36 months).

Soldiers who have served in the military for at least 3 years (36 months) and who have carried out international tasks in Cambodia or Laos.

Wounded soldiers who are disabled.

Servicemen who have lost 31-59 percent of their labor strength as a result of combat operations or operations in Cambodia, Laos, or along the border or on islands.

Method of calculating the work period of soldiers to determine if they can be discharged: According to the stipulations in Circular No 48/TBXH of 30 September 1985 of the Ministry of War Invalids and Social Welfare (former) and Circular No 2123/QP of 10 December 1985 of the Ministry of Defense:

For soldiers who have been on active duty for 5 years or more, the conversion factor is: 1 year and 6 months or 1 year and 4 months of demobilization aid for each year of service.

For soldiers who have had less than 5 years of active duty, there is no conversion factor. Instead, they are considered to have 5 years for purposes of calculating the demobilization aid.

Method of calculating the demobilization aid: Based on the stipulations in Article 13 of Decree No 236/HDBT of 18 September 1985 and Official Letter No 922/V17 of 4 March 1986 of the Council of Ministers:

Servicemen who have been demobilized are to be paid a one-time cash allowance equal to their salary and subsidies (if any). Besides this, for each year that they served in the military (after applying the conversion factor), they are to receive an allowance equal to 1 month's salary and subsidies (if any). The minimum allowance will be five times their monthly salary.

For soldiers who have received living expenses, the demobilization allowance has been set at 250 dong per month (beginning on 1 January 1989, the amount will be 25,568 dong per month). [as published]

The military will pay the above demobilization allowances for 3 months. The rest will be paid by the labor, war invalids, and social welfare sector in the locality where they reside.

In the case of wounded soldiers who are now being treated at military hospitals and at military recuperation groups, if they volunteer to be treated at home or agree to a transfer to the recovery station of the local labor, war invalids, and social welfare sector, as of 1 December 1988, the army will pay the men a lump-sum allowance before they are transferred. (According to Decision No 314/QP of 6 December 1988 of the Ministry of Defense and Guideline No 66/CSTV of 13 January 1989 of the Joint Policy and Finance Department)

Hardship allowances:

According to the stipulations in Article 3 of Decision No 63/QP of 31 March 1988 of the Ministry of Defense and Guideline No 203/TV-CS-CB of 10 May 1988 of the Joint Finance-Policy-Cadre Department:

In addition to the demobilization allowance, officers and specialists who have served in the military for many years, who are now no longer needed following the reorganization of the forces but who are still too young and healthy to retire, and who have volunteered to be discharged since 1 December 1987 will receive a hardship allowance equal to 12 months salary and subsidies.

This allowance will be paid by the unit for 6 months. The local military organization in the place where they reside will pay the remaining amount.

Morale Problems of Border Post Cadres Discussed

902E0081B Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 30 Oct 89 p 2

[Text] The situation along the Hoang Lien Son border defense line has been relatively stable recently. At a number of points, the peoples on the two sides have crossed the border to trade goods without encountering any problems, unlike at the beginning of the year. Even though the material and spiritual lives of the cadres at a number of border defense posts are still difficult, things are much better than before. However, at the transit point border defense posts, the cadres and troops are not at ease. On the outside, no one is complaining. But inside, a number of cadres want to leave the military. Are the primary level cadres along the Hoang Lien Son defense line afraid of difficulties and hardships? Are they afraid to make sacrifices? At the border "passes," the situation is very complex. Do they lack sufficient capabilities to handle every situation? Are the leaders and commanders of the border defense forces concerned about things? Have they failed to provide basic education in a timely manner?

After studying the matter, we have found that just as along the border in a number of other northern provinces, changes have taken place recently along the Hoang Lien Son border. This situation has confused a number of units stationed along the Hoang Lien Son border. They have been unable to keep up with the changes. In particular, even though a number of achievements have been scored in implementing Central Committee Directive No 118, some units and cadres at the posts and stations have not acted in a prudent and clearheaded manner. The command cadres at the posts and units have not been resolute in handling the situation. They have focused on discovering smuggled goods and have given little attention to upholding the laws in the border area. Whenever provincial border defense commanders make an inspection and correct things, they appear to be discouraged and worried, and this has a bad effect on leadership. During just the first 6 months of 1989, throughout the province there were more than 100 disciplinary infractions, and 20 percent of these involved party members and officers. Some were very serious cases. At a party and political work training conference for command cadres from the border defense posts that was held in August, the Hoang Lien Son provincial border defense commander said that the "time has come for us to put a stop to the disorder along the province's border defense line. The commanders of the border defense posts and stations must adhere to the contents of the party and political tasks and involve every cadre and soldier in the unit in this work." Along with this situation, the rear area of the Hoang Lien Son border defense units have many pressing problems.

In recent years, the economy of Hoang Lien Son has not been very good. The rear area province closest to Hoang Lien Son is Vinh Phu Province. In 1988, a number of

districts in this province encountered grain problems. Most of the cadres working along the Hoang Lien Son border defense line have homes either in this province or in Vinh Phu Province. Others come from Nghe Tinh, Thanh Hoa, Ha Nam Ninh, and Hai Hung. The cadres who have worked in Hoang Lien Son for more than 5 years and who are far from their families are usually very poor, and they receive their wages several months late. Thus, there is little that they can do to help their families. On the other hand, the implementation of the "10 contracts" in agriculture and the fact that the state is permitting the existence of many economic elements have had a great impact on the thinking of the primary level cadres and troops on the Hoang Lien Son border. Many cadres want to be discharged so that they can look after their families. At the Muong Khuong border defense point, there are three cadres whose wives worked at enterprises and agencies. Because of the reduction in the size of the administrative apparatus, they are now out of work.

In this situation, many of the border defense cadres and soldiers feel that the compensation measures and policies are unsatisfactory. The cadres at the Hoang Lien Son border defense posts and stations understand the country's present economic situation. They understand the problems, but they do not feel that this is a reason to trample on or ignore their legitimate rights. Most of the primary level cadres live and work in very difficult and remote areas, but they are paid very little and sometimes payments are interrupted. Looking only at wages, if a second lieutenant who lives alone experiences great difficulties, imagine how bad things can become when he does not receive his wages for several months. Along the Ha Bac, Bat Xat, and Muong Khuong border defense lines, many cadres can't go on leave, because they don't have enough money and their wages are very low. That is without mentioning the fact that when working, cadres have to spend money, but when they return to their organization or unit, they are not compensated immediately. It sometimes takes as long as a year for them to receive compensation. In 1988 many families of cadres serving along the border of Hoang Lien Son experienced difficulties and had to be given aid. But for some reason, to date nothing has been done to solve the problems.

In Muong Khuong and Bac Ha districts, the lives of the people serving at the border defense posts are very difficult. Some people told us that border defense cadres serving at bases in Hoang Lien Son are unhappy because they do not understand things and their standards are low. But we do not feel that that is entirely correct. Most of the cadres serving here have received basic training at schools and military academies. Each year, they are given supplementary training to increase their knowledge. Moreover, they can stay in contact with society. Hoang Lien Son is a rather complex province and so the men face great challenges. Almost all of the cadres see clearly that their task is to defend the borders of their sacred fatherland. But the problem is that there is a very wide gap between those serving in the mountains and

jungles and those serving in the rear. This is why the cadres serving at the Hoang Lien Son bases are unhappy and why their enthusiasm has declined. From visiting a number of units, it was clear that many of the cadres want to go home to look after their families. This poses a great problem for the political and ideological work of the Hoang Lien Son provincial border defense leaders and commanders.

The conference to review the party and political work of the Hoang Lien Son border defense troops during the first 6 months of 1989 stressed that the burning problem today is ideological work. Every echelon and unit must carry on ideological work in a serious and thorough manner. The major policy of the Hoang Lien Son provincial border defense command is to launch a widespread political and ideological activities campaign at all the border defense posts and stations in the province. In this, the emphasis will be on having all the cadres and party members engage in criticism and self-criticism. The provincial border defense leaders and commanders will discuss things and issue resolutions on ideological work, organize inspections, and take prompt steps to solve the problems at the primary level. However, we feel that besides providing ideological education for the cadres at the primary level, attention should be given to improving the system of compensating the men. Cases of corruption and cases in which people have failed to carry out the orders of their commanders must be prosecuted resolutely. The provincial border defense commanders and leaders should propose that the Hoang Lien Son Provincial People's Committee, the sectors, and the mass organizations establish a "border and rear area aid" fund in order to encourage the border defense cadres and soldiers and help them to complete their tasks along the province's border.

ECONOMIC

Youth Laborers Express Views on Working in USSR

902E0087A Hanoi THANH NIEN in Vietnamese
Aug 89 pp 17-19

[Excerpts] Vietnam and the Soviet Union have been engaged in labor cooperation since 1980. During these past 8 years, we have sent 81,686 people to the Soviet Union, which is 41 percent of the total number of laborers (200,764) sent to the four countries.

Of the 81,686 laborers sent to work in the Soviet Union, 58,813 people, or 72 percent, are youths. Of these, 52,343, or 89 percent, are members of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union. Looking at the figures, it can be seen that the great majority of those who have gone to engage in labor cooperation are youths. Also, 27.08 percent of the control cadres (unit heads and interpreters) working in the Soviet Union are union members. Even though many of these people are now older, the time of their youth was a very active period.

In engaging in labor cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, we have achieved a number of objective results worthy of note.

Jobs have been provided for many laborers, most of whom are youths. Through working abroad, our youths have trained and improved their skills. Before they were sent to the Soviet Union, less than 30 percent of the youths were skilled workers. Now 5-7 percent are highly skilled workers. Through this labor, the youths have received training concerning industrial behavior and production discipline.

By working diligently with high productivity, each person has earned a good income. Their lives have improved, and in general, they have been able to send commodities to help their families in Vietnam to varying degrees.

By sending people to engage in labor cooperation abroad, besides the wages and bonuses paid to individual workers, the state has also earned some foreign currency. During the period 1980-1987, the country earned 174 million rubles from labor cooperations, and society had additional consumer commodities. Since 1987, the Soviet government has appropriated 8 million transferable rubles a year from the incomes of the cooperative laborers to enable us to import 15 types of goods to support the lives of the people.

Labor cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal countries has contributed to developing the cooperation and friendly relations between our country and these countries and to implementing an international division of labor.

However, in engaging in labor cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, serious things have occurred that have had a bad effect on the Vietnamese community there, damaged the friendly relationship, and tarnished the image of the Vietnamese in the eyes of the local people.

What is the reason for this? We must look at both ourselves and at our friends, at the masses and control, at things both inside and outside the country, and at things both in the embassies and at the bases.

Above all, we must examine the factors in those countries.

For a long time now, the Soviet Union and the Soviet people have had a good impression of our youths (here, I would like to emphasize the wonderful impression on two planes: material life and cultural and spiritual life). Thus, our youths have been eager and proud to engage in labor cooperation. (In 1988, 65 percent of the letters received by the International Cooperation Department were requests to go engage in labor cooperation.) But after they arrive abroad, the actual situation is very different from what they had imagined it would be (commodities are scarce, and cultural and spiritual life in the Vietnamese community is poor). Thus, the ideas of

many people have been turned upside down. Only a few people have become pessimistic, but many have become disheartened. "If only I had known..." is a phrase heard frequently among newly arrived laborers. This can be explained by the following factors:

1. Economically, the Soviet Union is experiencing many difficulties. In some places, there are serious shortages of consumer goods and food. Vietnamese laborers have to go to the capital to purchase goods. There is even competition to purchase commodities. Some local people are worried that this will affect their vital interests. Evil people on both sides have used this situation to stir up trouble and ruin the friendly atmosphere.

2. Socially, in Vietnam, many of our laborers have idealized Soviet society. When they arrive in the Soviet Union and see the actual social situation and realize that it has many negative aspects, many of our youths lose confidence.

3. Because of the economic and social factors mentioned above, laborers are confused about how to reconcile economic rights based on a labor contract with the seriousness of industrial labor discipline. This can be viewed as a contradiction that is difficult to resolve.

Looking at the factors on our side, a striking problem is the job situation when they return home. This is an immediate problem, and it will be a problem for decades to come. Labor cooperation is not a long-term solution to the job problem here. Each year in our country, 1.2 million people come of work age. Millions of people are unemployed, and several million people work only half time at factories. In the fields, hundreds of thousands of servicemen have left the military and returned from the borders or from the C-K battlefields. Beginning in 1989, every year, 150,000-500,000 laborers will return home after fulfilling their labor cooperation contracts. This is at a time when staffs are being reduced, the apparatus is being reorganized, the enterprises are engaging in profit-and-loss accounting from production to wage funds. Thus, the concept of "having a job" will not be in agreement with the concept of "entering the bureaucracy." Domestically, many private enterprises and production cooperation teams are expanding and achieving high economic results. Each individual and labor collective must be aware of this in order to solve things for themselves. Instead of sending back consumer goods, they should send back production implements in order to form sewing, machine, and vehicle repair teams as proposed by the Youth Union Central Committee for the labor unions bearing the name of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union. [passage omitted]

The Soviet Union is very large. Some of the labor units are 10,000 km away from the embassy and Control Board. Vietnamese laborers are working in almost 250 Soviet enterprises subordinate to 13 different ministries and 96 cities in 65 provinces. Because the laborers must study and work in different locations, management at the labor units is very important. Unless each person has

a spirit of self-control and vigilance, it will be impossible to have strong collectives. Along with the spirit of vigilance of each person, the role of the management cadres is very important. It can be said that whether a unit is strong or weak depends mainly on the management cadres, the cadres who carry out the party, youth union, and trade union work. The command and managerial capabilities of these cadres, together with the spirit of solidarity and the combined effort to build their labor units, are the factors for scoring results and eliminating negative aspects. Actual experience shows that units that have good managerial cadres who work hard for the collective will grow and become stronger. Conversely, those units that have weak cadres and that lack internal solidarity will decline. Labor productivity will be low, and there will be a widespread lack of discipline. Thus, it can be said that cadres are the decisive factor that determine success or failure in managing the laborers and people.

Here, we would like to mention the number of laborers who returned home before completing their term: From 1981 to September 1988, 2,016 people working in the Soviet Union returned home early. That accounted for approximately 40 percent of all laborers working in the four countries who returned home early. Of these, 506 were sick, 236 were pregnant, 109 requested permission to return home, and 1,165 were sent home for disciplinary reasons.

In the Soviet Union, 2.85 percent of the total number of laborers working there committed a disciplinary infraction. In the German Democratic Republic, the percentage was only 0.74 percent. Most of the laborers disciplined were disciplined for being absent from work, engaging in illegal trading activities, brewing liquor, fighting, engaging in illicit sexual activities, and so on. This is a warning for management and youth mobilization. We do not feel that relying only on education and administrative control is enough. Naturally, we must have excellent and highly skilled "key" units. But the best thing is to "prevent the fire." Thus, there must be synchronized measures for everything from selecting people within the country and managing them abroad to providing policies dealing with the rights of laborers, such as commodity policies, customs policies, foreign exchange policies, work policies, and so on. The outdated circulars (since 1980) that provide selection guidelines should be replaced by agreements containing specific commitments detailing the responsibilities of both the laborers and the labor selection organizations. The thirty signatures and seals required to send just one person abroad (even with 30 signatures and seals and 15 different types of certificates, there are still many loopholes, which have proven fertile ground for the growth of negative aspects such as buying permits and bribing public security and military officials) should be done away with so that after they arrive in the host country they will have to find a way to earn money to pay for their trip. Along with the official documents, they should also be provided with guidelines so that they can correct

their own behavior. Everyone knows that policies concretize the viewpoints and lines of a party and nation. During the past 8 years of labor cooperation, we have not developed a system of policies on this problem. Instead, we have temporary and arbitrary stipulations, which makes it impossible to avoid having subjective prejudices. The customs policy on people leaving to engage in labor cooperation has changed four times in 2 years: prohibited, then limited, then purchase, then prohibited, and then purchase. Now, things are more relaxed based on Council of Ministers Directive 175.

Another problem that must be given attention is the matter of the agreements that we signed with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in 1980 and 1981. Because of the historical situation and guiding ideology of those years, the targets of labor cooperation as recorded in Council of Ministers Resolution 362/CP of 1980 were:

1. To provide jobs for some of our youths.
2. To improve skills.
3. To forge industrial labor behavior and build a rank of industrial workers to support socialist construction here in the future.

The targets were not economic and social targets as detailed in Council of Ministers Directive 108/HDBT of 30 June 1988. Even though the agreements have been revised many times, the interests of the state and of the laborers are still inappropriate. The foreign currency remitted home is still non-commercial dong/rubles. The money earned continues to be placed in Account 06 and is not separated. Centralized purchasing for laborers has not yet become a reality. Everyone knows about these problems, but they can't be solved quickly. The basic contents must wait until the new agreement for the period 1991-1995 is signed.

Youth Concerns About Foreign Labor Agreements

902E0086A Hanoi THANH NIEN in Vietnamese
Aug 89 pp 14-16

[Text] The cooperative labor agreements that Vietnam signed with the Soviet Union, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Bulgaria in 1980 will conclude in 1990. In this period of renovation, it is essential that we summarize and evaluate the results of this in an all-round manner. We must evaluate both the good and bad points, particularly the reasons for what is good and what is bad, so that the new agreements will achieve even better results. There are many problems from which we must learn. But here, I would like to discuss a number of problems with which youths are concerned. These are problems that must be addressed when signing new cooperative labor agreements with other countries.

I. On economic effects:

Cooperative labor is actually a form of exporting labor. This involves sending laborers to work abroad temporarily. Thus, the first target that must be hit is the economic target (economic benefits to both the country and the laborers). At the same time, because manpower is a special type of commodity, attention must also be given to social targets, which must be part of the cooperative and friendly relationship between our country and other countries, particularly the socialist countries.

The state has sent laborers to work in socialist countries. This has earned foreign currency for the country, and society has had an additional quantity of consumer goods.

As of the end of 1988, with more than 210,000 people working in the socialist countries, our country had received 230 non-commercial rubles (equal to 150 million transferable rubles). Of this, 30 percent was contributed by the laborers and 70 percent was given to the state by these friendly countries.

There are two problems concerning this money that need to be examined:

The non-commercial currency can be used only to balance things and settle accounts with the countries in the SEV bloc. In Bulgaria, since 1987, this money has been used to pay debts. And in the Soviet Union, during the period 1987 to 1990, 8 million transferable rubles (equal to 12.8 million non-commercial rubles) have been appropriated each year in exchange for consumer goods sent by the Soviet Union. But in 1987, we did not receive goods worth the full 8 million rubles.

Actually, the money that the friendly countries have sent to us was earned in production by the surplus value of our laborers, who contributed directly to the production results of those countries. Thus, that cannot be regarded as non-commercial currency.

Thus, the economic benefits received by our country have been low as compared with the effort spent and the rather large number of laborers sent abroad, and these are even lower as compared with sending people to work in the socialist countries. Here, we must try to clarify the economic value of our laborers to the production of these countries and from this calculate a more satisfactory share of the "profits" for our country.

Clearly, in the new agreements, the amount of money to be transferred to our country must be increased. During the past 9 years, our laborers have always received high marks by these countries. They have worked diligently, endured hardships, and maintained productivity and good quality. Many people with "golden hands" have made positive contributions to fulfilling the production plans of the factories, enterprises, and work sites in those countries.

As for the laborers, after fulfilling their 4-5 year labor contract in these socialist countries, paying taxes to these

countries, and contributing to building the fatherland, each person receives about 2,500-5000 rubles (the standard is the ruble).

The striking problem here is that the wages and other legitimate income earned by the workers (by working overtime and engaging in service activities during their spare time) have not been protected and are still "up in the air." In the socialist countries, there is a serious shortage of commodities, particularly of those types of commodities needed by Vietnamese laborers. It is very difficult for our laborers to purchase goods. This has given rise to many negative phenomena and had a great effect on the production work of our laborers (who have let their minds wander at work and sought excuses to take time off in order to go "search for goods"). While "finding" goods is difficult, sending goods home can be even more difficult. (A number of incidents have occurred recently in the German Democratic Republic. Their customs officials have confiscated an excessively large amount of goods from our laborers.) This concerns the customs policies of these countries. The objective of their policies is to limit the amount of goods that can be taken out to a minimum even though our laborers have sweated and even died to earn these goods (40 people have been killed and many people have been disabled as a result of labor accidents). Actually, this is the property of the laborers, who contributed to enriching these countries. If they cannot purchase goods and send goods home, many negative phenomena will occur (alcoholism, fights, sexual promiscuity, and so on). This will have a very bad effect on the society of those countries and on our society when these people return home.

The new cooperative labor agreement must address these problems, particularly with respect to the friendly countries. The commodity needs of the Vietnamese laborers must be fulfilled. They must be able to purchase and send back goods. This will have a direct effect on the production and society of these countries and on how the Vietnamese laborers think and feel about the country where they are living and working.

2. Attention must be given to the lives of the laborers, particularly their cultural and information needs. They must have jobs, and they must be paid at least the minimum wage in effect in those countries. They must be free to travel, visit each other, and marry and have children abroad. These problems are particularly important to youths. Many of the requirements must be in accord with the national psychology while living and working abroad.

To date, a rather large group of Vietnamese has "appeared" in these friendly countries (there are more than 65,000 laborers in the Soviet Union and almost 60,000 laborers in the GDR). After living in these countries for many years, our laborers are "starved" for information. Their cultural and spiritual lives are very poor, because they lack the means to make contact, that is, the ability to speak the local language. As a result, there have been many disagreements and arguments

between our laborers and the local people, and this has led to a lack of mutual respect. Unfortunately, little attention has been given to this problem, and no measures have been implemented to deal with this.

There must be more Vietnamese books (or translations) and films. There must be television programs broadcast in the Vietnamese language. Cultural activities (excursions and trips) must be expanded for our laborers. In particular, the local people (where our laborers are working) must understand the reasons for sending our laborers to work there. They must understand the feelings and the customs and habits of our laborers.

The common rights of people must be guaranteed. These people have the credentials of laborers, not trainees (based on the spirit of the present agreement) and so these rights must be respected. These rights must not be violated. Our youths, in particular, need these rights. This requires that Vietnam and these countries take steps to ensure that the legitimate needs are fulfilled and that violations of these rights be dealt with harshly.

Naturally, "when in Rome, you must do as the Romans do." Each country may have its own regulations. (For example, in the Soviet Union, before people can take a trip, they must follow many procedures. Management at the collective zones is very tight.) The time has come to examine things and reduce the hassle. If this is done, the young Vietnamese laborers will work enthusiastically, and this will make it possible to reduce the number of minor clashes and arguments.

Providing regular and stable jobs and being fair in assigning jobs to our laborers are problems that must be addressed in the new agreement. There is something odd about this. It was because of the labor shortage that we agreed to send laborers. But recently, at many of the production installations in the Soviet Union, laborers have lacked work, and the work has not been stable. As a result, the incomes of our laborers have been low, and in some cases the workers have not been able to earn enough to support even themselves. Given this situation, our friends must bear the responsibility to prevent negative phenomena.

Besides this, with respect to very heavy work, harsh climatic zones that are bad for the health of laborers, and a number of service occupations that are unsuitable for guest laborers, things must be examined very carefully. In general, our laborers should not be assigned such jobs.

Here, we also need to mention the living conditions necessary for our laborers who are working in collective zones. They must be provided with living quarters, and they must have access to clinics, clubs, a television, refrigerator, and so on. This was mentioned in the past agreement, but this must be supplemented in accord with the special needs of our laborers. For example, they must be provided with 6 square meters of living space per person, with not more than three people per room. There must be a hot water system, heaters, and a quarantine building in each population center.

The maximum number of people assigned to each three-room apartment must not exceed seven people. Each apartment must have a refrigerator and a three-burner stove. (Our laborers cook their own meals and usually eat at least two meals a day at home.) If they live in a barracks instead of an apartment, they must also be provided with refrigerators, stoves, and so on based on a corresponding percentage.

Each unit must have at least one room to serve as a club, one television set, and so on. The important point is that these conditions must be inspected by the joint organizations responsible before laborers are sent to work and live there.

Workers must have the opportunity to improve their skills and receive middle school, college, and post-college training while on the job. They must be subject to the same measures as the workers in those countries. They must be allowed to stay and work until they have completed their studies. If these things are done, this will have a great effect on the ranks of young laborers, who want to mature and raise their standards.

The above is just one of many problems about which our youths are concerned with respect to cooperative labor. In order to supplement the new agreement on labor cooperation, based on the realities of the past 9 years and scientific foundations, more effective guidelines and measures must be put forth. This must be done in order to ensure that labor cooperation develops in accord with the policies of the party and state.

More Problems Anticipated in Coal Sector

902E0086B Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in
Vietnamese 31 Oct 89 p 3

[Text] In 1987 and 1988, production in the coal sector increased. The yearly output of washed coal exceeded 6 million tons. Expenditures for clearing the overburden and opening preparatory shafts increased correspondingly. But in 1989, coal production dropped sharply. During the first 9 months of the year, the sector failed to fulfill the basic norms. During the first 9 months of 1989, the output of washed coal was only 36 percent of last year's output, only 50 percent as much overburden was removed, and only 54 percent as many preparatory shafts were opened. No matter how great an effort is made, this year's output of washed coal will be only half as much as last year's.

Since the Sixth Party Congress, the coal production installations have taken the initiative in production and business. They have reorganized production and achieved good results. But since the beginning of the year, the coal sector has been forced to lower the washed coal production targets and other basic norms because of bad market conditions and financial difficulties. These will have a bad effect on the coal sector.

Finances, Independence in Name Only

The coal production corporations are now using three financial sources: budget funds for capital construction projects based on the plan to expand the coal sector, loans, and money earned from selling products. As for the foreign currency earned from exporting coal, based on Directive 19-CT, the coal sector must pay the state only 10 percent. The remaining 90 percent is retained to maintain and expand production.

The budget funds allocated for capital construction projects in the coal sector were both very small and late as compared with the targets and speed of the projects. As a result, a number of projects being built as part of the project to expand the coal sector in coming years had to be abandoned or delayed. The Cam Pha Construction and Installation Corporation, which received the contract to build the capital construction projects of the Cam Pha Coal Corporation, could not pay for the work completed. The Mong Duong Mine Construction Enterprise has not paid the workers their wages for July. The gallery workers are valuable assets of the corporation and the coal sector as a whole. But at present, there is no work for them, and 450 of these workers have had to change jobs or transfer to another unit.

The production operations at the Cam Pha Coal Corporation require 50 billion dong in liquid assets, with 18 billion to come from loans. But in reality, it has been able to borrow only 10 billion. The corporation is looking for other sources of capital. The existing capital has been used for production and business, but there is not enough money. Because of this, it has had to use the money of its customers. At present, the corporation owes the Equipment Import-Export Corporation a total of 9 billion dong. Besides this, the Cam Pha Coal Corporation has had to reduce or stop mining operations at a number of work sites such as the Nam Quang Loi work site, the H12 work site, the Thong Nhat coal mine, and the Khe Cham gallery. The Coc 6 and Deo Nai coal mines have reduced their equipment by 20-30 percent. The situation at the Hon Gai and Uong Bi coal corporations and Coal Corporation 3 is even worse.

The situation with respect to earnings from selling coal here and abroad is not any brighter. At the corporations, a ton of coal cinders 6 is selling for only 20,000 dong. The largest buyer of coal is Electric Power Corporation 1. It has raised the price of coal cinders 5 to 40,000 dong per ton. But it costs more than 50,000 dong to produce 1 ton of coal cinders 5. The state is allowing the coal sector to keep 90 percent of the foreign currency earned from exporting coal in order to compensate for the losses suffered from domestic sales. This capital will determine the fate of the coal sector. In the entire sector, there are only two corporations, the Cam Pha and Hon Gai coal corporations, that can export coal because of their favorable geography and infrastructure. The financial positions of the Uong Bi Coal Corporation and Coal Corporation 2 have been balanced by the two corporations mentioned above. But the sources of foreign currency are

unstable and are often interrupted by various forms and at many levels. The money earned by selling coal to other countries is not transferred to the accounts of the coal corporations but to the foreign commerce bank. The coal corporations cannot use this foreign currency freely as permitted by the state. Instead, things are managed by the State Planning Commission. The Cam Pha Coal Corporation has sold \$2.4 million worth of coal but does not know when it will be able to use the money. After great effort, it has only recently been supplied with 80,000 tons of gasoline as partial payment. The corporation must use this gasoline for 10 years. The corporation has proposed using diesel, but the various sectors concerned have refused to approve this. The corporation has had to look for customers to buy this gasoline in order to obtain cash to purchase oil. This is a very circuitous and expensive way of doing things. With these three sources of capital, the coal production units cannot balance their finances in order to maintain production, to say nothing of expanding production.

Unequal Competition

The production units subordinate to the coal sector and the mining units outside the coal sector face competition concerning coal output and coal prices. The units outside the coal sector are subordinate to the geological and national defense sectors and a number of localities.

According to still incomplete statistics, there are now approximately 70 units outside the coal sector that are mining coal seams and sorting coal at the mines. At the small mines, each year they mine several thousand tons, and at the bigger mines they mine several tens of thousands of tons. The gross production of coal mined by these units is approximately 600-700,000 tons a year. Based on the stipulations, these units must have three documents (a mining permit from the Geological General Department, a certificate issued by the Ministry of Energy certifying that they have sufficient technical capabilities to carry on mining operations, and a land allocation document from the provincial people's council in the province where the mining operations are to be conducted). Only about half of the units engaged in mining coal have all three of these documents.

Comparing opencut mining with open-seam mining, it's clear that the units that engage in open-seam mining have the advantage in terms of production costs. Thus, they can control coal prices and dominate domestic markets. At open-seam mines, if only a few hundred tons of coal are extracted, it often isn't necessary to remove overburden. At most, they have to remove only 1-2 meters of overburden to extract a ton of coal. The mines subordinate to the energy sector, which have the lowest overburden factor, must still remove 6 meters of overburden to obtain 1 ton of coal. At the Cao Son mine, the overburden factor is 12. The lowest cost of removing the overburden from a mine is 4,000 dong per metric ton. The above statistics clearly show that the units that mine open-seams have lower production costs than do the coal sector units that work opencut mines. Their costs are at

lower by at least 20,000 dong per ton. That is without mentioning working underground mines, which is much more expensive. A number of the units that mine open-seams don't have to put up much money, and some don't have to put up any money at all because they use the expenditures of another industry to mine coal. Thus, coal prices in the Red River Delta are approximately 30,000 dong for coal mined by the energy sector and below 20,000 dong for coal mined by units that work open seams.

If this situation is allowed to continue for several more years, as the economy's need for coal increases and as export markets expand, it will be difficult for the coal sector to satisfy this demand, because it will lack equipment and skilled workers. Many mines are damaged and must be restored. Unless mines are constructed and restored this year, there won't be any coal to sell in the coming years.

Efforts To Collect, Pay Debts Lead to Good Early Results

902E0084A Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
14 Nov 89 pp 1, 4

[Text] The state of capital being deliberately used without compensation and debts remaining unpaid for a long time between economic sectors, between central and local levels, and among basic-level units has recently become more and more serious, caused trouble to production and circulation, affected the budget, and given rise to negative aspects and stagnation in all fields and areas of activities and in the national economy as a whole.

To overcome that situation the chairman of the Council of Ministers on 20 April 1989 issued Directive No 90-CT on settlement of debts among sectors, localities, units, and basic-level economic organizations, for the purpose of paying off all debts that remained owed as of 31 March 1989. On 6 June 1989, the chairman issued Decision No 153-CT on settlement of debts related to the right to use foreign currencies obtained from export of assigned goods, debts resulting from agricultural tax payable with paddy, and debts payable with paddy in accordance with two-way contracts between central and local levels in the 3 years of 1986, 1987, and 1988.

The initial results of implementing the debts-settling decisions showed that a number of ministries, sectors, and localities had been able to discover the debts that they were to collect and pay and later acted to settle them, with payment amounting to hundreds of billions of dong. Consequently, the payment helped to overcome some difficulties having to do with capital and materials and to speed up the process of producing, circulating, and selling products.

The process of settling debts was taking place through these measures: "to keep records of all receipts and expenses" through the state budget; to record receipts in connection with profit, state-operated business, price

differentials, money from imported goods, return of reserve capital, money spent in the previous year, and so on; to record expenses in connection with compensation for losses, price compensation, rate of exchange compensation, capital construction, state reserves, foreign loan payment, money granted as expenses to some sectors, and so on. To receive and to spend money through arrangement between units, between units and ministries, and between central and local levels in each other's favor and through every active measure possible; to actively collect every payment to be made to the state budget so as to have money available in the latter to cover expenses in connection with the still-owed debts, at the same time to urge all units to make payment to one another at due time. To create sources of money supply from the state budget in order to pay off all items remaining unpaid since 1988 and debts in connection with grain loss compensation, export loss compensation, capital construction, and so on, with these sources of payment creating the ability to speed up settling of other debts.

To settle debts in compliance with Decision 153-CT was seriously and urgently done in an effort to totally resolve the matter. There were 3 debts-settling groups in 3 different regions: the northern provinces; the central coastal and Central Highland provinces; the 9 Mekong delta provinces, Ho Chi Minh City, and the eastern Nam Bo provinces.

On the basis of the minutes of the groups showing comparison of debts and bearing acknowledgment signatures of representatives of the Ministries of Finance, Foreign Trade, Agriculture, and Food Industry, and local people's committees, the Council of Ministers chairman issued a decision ordering the settlement of debts in the 3 years of 1986, 1987, and 1988 between central and local levels, which consisted of the debts in connection with the right to use foreign currencies, agricultural tax, and two-way contract paddy.

In order to let the units that were making goods for export have capital in time to operate, to buy materials and products, to pay wages, and so on, the state adopted the policy of making payment in advance, directly, promptly, and openly to localities (the business installations making goods for export) as settlement of what the central administration owed them in connection with the right to use foreign currencies. At the same time, localities also were trying to find every means to pay off in 1989 the debts that were owed to it in connection with the agricultural tax and two-way contract paddy.

As initial results, according to reports of 17 localities, payment was collected for 27.8 percent of the debts to be repaid and payment was made for 48.49 percent of the debts to be settled. The provinces which did the job well were: Vung Tau-Con Dao having collected 31 percent and paid 82 percent of the debts; Tay Ninh, 57.12 and 43.95 percent; Quang Nam-Da Nang, 46.48 and 60.47 percent; Gia Lai-Kontum, 68.11 and 62.75 percent; Hanoi, 15.23 and 56.37 percent; and Dong Nai, 28.25

and 54.33 percent. The localities which were rather slow in doing the job were: Haiphong having collected only 6.2 percent and paid 5.35 percent of the debts; Thanh Hoa, 24.45 and 22.28 percent; Ha Nam Ninh, 23.1 and 25.89 percent; and Vinh Phu, 16.5 and 25.17 percent.

According to reports of 15 ministries, payment was collected for 34.4 percent of the debts to be repaid and payment was made for 39.2 percent of the debts to be settled. Many debts having to do with the state budget, by the set date of 31 March 1989, had been settled early, including those of the Aviation General Department, Posts and Telecommunications General Department, Oil and Gas General Department, Ministry of Interior, and so on. A number of sectors which had many loans involving other sectors included the following: The Ministry of Light Industry, as of 11 September 1989, collected 51 percent and paid 67 percent of the debts which had existed by 1 May 1989; the Ministry of Building, as of 10 July 1989, collected 37.8 percent and paid 46.7 percent of the debts which had existed by 31 March 1989.

The central debts-settling groups, by using many sources in carrying out their work, were able to settle all debts having to do with export loss compensation, grain loss compensation, and capital construction volume in 1988. At the same time, when they made payment for the items that existed in 1988, they were able to collect in favor of the central budget up to tens of billions of dong, the amounts that many units and localities still owed in connection with fertilizer, imported grain, and wrong tax-related budget adjustment.

The debts involving imported goods which should have been paid to the state budget amounted to hundreds of billions of dong as of 31 March 1989. Through the debts-settling efforts, domestic goods owners, as of 30 September, paid 72.5 percent of the above-mentioned debts to the central import organizations, which in turn put the payments in the state budget. The remaining unpaid debts so far involved fertilizer sales by the Agricultural Materials Corporation and the money having to do with accepting grain by the Grain Corporation, which are subordinate to the Ministries of Agriculture and Food Industry, respectively.

Generally speaking, the debts owed by the central administration and involving the right of localities to use foreign currencies (in the 3 years of 1986, 1987, and 1988) were fully paid off. The debts involving the agricultural tax could be accurately determined because of the existence of the tax register, which showed balances for every year. As to the debts having to do with two-way contracts on grain purchases, localities would have owed a lot of money to the central administration had the correct procedures, norms, and principles been observed. However, after their debts had been identified through comparison, all localities proposed that the central administration grant them exemption or reduce or write off such debts because of many reasons: They were not able to use the fertilizers that had been sent to

them to exchange for paddy, and instead had to sell them at directed prices, because of losses, damages, storms and floods, natural calamities, and so on. In the meantime, it was impossible to determine the conditions under which in-depth control could be exercised to see where the debts existed, in what areas, and for what reasons. Some localities had tried to import materials by themselves because the state had failed to maintain grain balance in their favor, and now demanded that the state pay off the debts.

Those were reasons why the state had written off many debts involving tax paddy and two-way contract paddy and existing in and prior to 1985 in favor of localities, but the latter were asked to pay off in 1989 the debts incurred in 1986, 1987, and 1988, after those debts had been identified for the last time; this request would have been ignored had the state failed to take firm measures. For instance, the state has so far paid off the debts related to the right to use foreign currencies to the 9 Mekong delta provinces, but as to the debts related to tax paddy and 2-way contract paddy which were 3 times as much as the ones owed by the state, these provinces have been given permission to delay their payment. However, that is not the reason for delaying and prolonging the settlement of those debts, or trying to write them off, because it will create great difficulties for the state budget.

After a period of time in which we have been trying to settle debts, what we are happy about is that an important part of the debts that remained unpaid for many years has been paid off and that we have learned many good lessons regarding payment in the national economy as a whole. At the same time, we still have many matters that need to be resolved in the time to come, such as drafting effective payment procedures and policies for sectors, levels, and basic units to deal with one another; openly notifying about the debts to be settled and proposing appropriate measures for their settlement; continuing to pay off the remaining debts among sectors, levels, and units in the national economy; and paying the debts owed to foreign countries and incurred by the state, sectors, localities, and units.

UNDP Helps Develop Plastic Production

BK0312084789 Hanoi VNA in English
0719 GMT 3 Dec 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA 3 December—The UNDP-funded (UN Development Program) project for development of plastic production was signed recently in Ho Chi Minh City.

Under the project, UNDP will help the city build a plastic technical centre at the cost of \$1.5 million. The city has received \$250,000 worth of equipment for testing plastic quality.

The project implemented by the city's Union of Plastic Enterprises will conduct research on new products and transfer new techniques of plastic industry.

SOCIAL

Reasons Behind Declining Newspaper Subscriptions in Haiphong

902E0064C Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 11 Oct 89 p 3

[Text] Public opinion will raise a rather big question when the right to be informed as asserted by the 6th Party Congress still has to be practiced more fully throughout the country and when, as the need to be informed becomes more urgent and realistic in the people's daily life, the purchasing power in Haiphong regarding newspapers of all kinds is decreasing at a considerable rate. There were 10,400 copies of NHAN DAN sold in the municipality in June but only 8,700 copies in July. QUAN DOI NHAN DAN sold 390 copies less; TIEN PHONG, 798; LAO DONG, 470; PHU NU, 1,020; and THIEU NIEN, 555. The number of copies of NONG NGHIEP decreased from 636 to 335. Even the municipality's political newspaper, HAI PHONG, decreased by 1,782 copies. Some people thought that because the posts and telecommunications sector cut 4 percent of the circulation charge, many counters did not get newspapers to sell any more. It was something that actually happened, but it was not the principal reason. At the meeting on 2 August convened by the Department of Propaganda and Education of the Municipal CPV Committee in coordination with the Posts and Telecommunications Service and the newspaper HAI PHONG to exchange ideas about the declining newspaper sales in the municipality, a consensus was that the direct reason behind it is the considerable current cuts in the spending for newspapers. According to officials of the Haiphong military command, unlike the large quantities of subscriptions and purchases of previous years, the spending for publications and newspapers that the command has been granted this year amounts to only more than 6 million dong. Many other organs are being in the same situation, with sharp reduction of the spending for publications and newspapers in the last 6 months of this year. The postal authorities said that of the 749 newspapers and magazines circulated in Haiphong (600 in foreign languages, 109 domestic ones), only 30 percent are bought by individuals through subscriptions; 5 percent are sold by counters; and the rest, or 65 percent, is subscribed by organs, enterprises, subward and village headquarters, sectors, mass organizations, and armed forces. (Each year Haiphong has a total circulation of 10 million copies.) And it seems that all of those organizations have been relying on funds provided by their superior authorities. As we have learned, very few organs, including the production installations that were making profit in their business, were "bold" enough to spend their own money to buy newspapers; for instance, the Tien Lang District rush-exporting enterprise, which has been recognized by both the district and the municipality as a rather successful production installation, did not subscribe to a single newspaper while it should have subscribed to at least two, HAI PHONG and NHAN DAN. Therefore we could not blame it solely on

spending cuts. First of all, the reason was the party committee echelons and leadership at all levels did not have sufficient interest in the right concept about reading newspapers in particular and in getting information in general. In some localities, some leading cadres even figured out that the money to be spent on newspaper subscriptions in a whole year should be saved for the purchase of radio-cassette recorders, which would be better because they could sometimes listen to radio stations and play recorded music at the same time. We would not want to comment on how correct that reasoning was, but we would like to point out that the mass communication medias today cannot be interchangeable. Even today some people still are vague about the matter, or are too familiar with the kind of reasoning that commonly exists among business people to the effect that newspaper reading is not effective in the economic sense and therefore does not need investment.

According to statistics issued by the Haiphong Posts and Telecommunications Service, there are more than 10 million newspaper copies circulated in the municipality in a year, or a per capita average of 7 copies. But in reality, 23 villages do not have a single copy. Of these 23 villages we have learned that quite a few are being blank, or no-information, areas. For these villages have no newspapers, cultural centers, libraries, nor wired-radio stations; only a few families there have radio-cassette recorders, with which they mainly listen to weather news and mostly music. In some districts, no newspapers are subscribed to anywhere, from education offices to village general schools. In Cat Hai District, where according to confirmation fishery is the key business, although the district is being concerned about building an economy based on foreign trade, it has not subscribed even to THUY SAN, KINH TE DOI NGOAI, and so on. Again in Cat Hai, some newspapers are bought but only single copies exist; for instance, a copy of GIAO VIEN NHAN DAN is available at the education office, or a copy of VAN HOA THE THAO at the culture-sports office, for these offices are the sole subscribers. It is obvious that in these villages people are being blind and deaf in the sense of lacking information. What do we think about the people's "hunger" for information in our rural areas today? Ideological workers and sociologists certainly are concerned about this matter. And the current signs of moral decline, violation of the law, overstepped practice of democracy, and social ills—are they related to the "hunger" for information and "blank" areas we discussed earlier? The first problem to be resolved today is "to fight the hunger" for information among the people in agricultural areas. And to do so needs an appropriate measure. Maybe the state must subsidize part of the cost of newsprint in order to lower newspaper prices. Or it should raise spending for purchase of newspapers at different levels.

As the buying of newspapers is declining, the habit of reading newspapers everyday at the government offices is almost forgotten or only exists as a "fine memory."

At the present time the posts and telecommunications sector in Haiphong is undergoing changes in the distribution of published materials. For instance, the large number of newspaper copies which used to remain undelivered is being reduced to a negligible level because the postmen in charge of distribution have begun to deliver newspapers anywhere, to alleys and multistoried buildings, and regardless of rains and winds. Or because the method of subscribing to newspapers at any time, on any day, has been adopted. And many news counters have been opened.

As we look for the reasons behind the declining newspaper sales, we must mention the fact that some newspapers fail to satisfy their readers' needs. Some of them are gradually losing readers because they go after vulgar tastes, or because the articles they print lack a good amount of information. This requires each and every newspaper to review itself in order to respond to the needs of its readers. It must work for readers, just as business people consider the market a yardstick to measure production efficiency.

The fact that the buying of newspapers of all kinds in Haiphong is decreasing considerably affects the efforts to improve the people's ideological awareness and feelings. Many organs and cadres in charge of ideological and cultural work now do not have enough newspapers to read. Some individuals in charge of propaganda and training work have been forced to contribute money taken from their small wages to buying newspapers for shared reading and early information, which they need while doing their work.

The fact that the buying of newspapers of all kinds in Haiphong is decreasing in our opinion is a signal that sounds the alarm about the efficiency of the information market. Party committee echelons must not only be concerned about bringing information to the people but also attach importance to setting information directions for different objects. There must be appropriate investment by some possible means in order to let the people receive information, and information investment should not be expected to bring about immediate results as in the case of investment in business and production.

Discussing Role of Press in Light of Renovation

902E0065A Hanoi *QUAN DOI NHAN DAN* in Vietnamese 11 Oct 89 pp 1, 4

[Text] If we judged the press in the years of the resistance in the spirit of renovation, we could not help admitting that it had at that time many weaknesses and shortcomings, such as the news being poor and monotonous, too many articles having the character of illustrations and explanations of positions and policies, lack of articles containing critical comments and self-criticisms, articles being even "enlarged" and "colored pink," with grandiloquent tone in many sentences and words, and sometimes arrogance and exaggeration. The objective reason for that state of affairs was the war, but there also was a

subjective reason being found in the perception of the task of the press. Those one-time weaknesses and shortcomings were far from totally resolved and have so far echoed in our journalistic mode, leadership, reading, and observation while the press has entered a period of renovation.

There was a truth, however, that we should not deny: The press at that time properly fulfilled its propaganda and campaigning function, and the then topmost task of encouraging the people and the army as a whole to resolutely fight and defeat the American aggressors.

That achievement affirms a very important thing, which is that the press must always put above everything else its need to mobilize and educate the masses for successfully carrying out the revolutionary task. To underestimate this need and to stay away from this job of the press means to give up the latter's basic function. Even if today it needs profound changes aimed at making itself both the party's mobilizing and propaganda tool and the masses' voice, and trying to make its news richer and its articles more attractive to readers, whatever it does is only for the press to properly fulfill its basic function. This function in the past was to mobilize and encourage the people as a whole to carry out the war of resistance to victory and today is to mobilize and encourage the people as a whole to build socialism and to defend the fatherland.

There has appeared a tendency to consider newspapers a business object which must promote sales by putting above everything else the need to become attractive, to satisfy the liking of readers, and to look for sensational stories to capture more readers, in addition to the tendency to the effect that because they are the masses' forum, "newspapers must say things different from what the party says" and should not have the character of "illustrations." To excessively stress these things easily makes the press depart from its political function and task and even commit serious mistakes. In a certain socialist country they have concluded that the newspapers that sold best were the opposition newspapers, the ones operated by private people (in fact their newspapers also tended to be on the opposition side), and next the ones that published cases of horrible acts and sensational stories of decadence. It is obvious that if newspapers only go after the liking of readers and behave in a demagogic manner in order to sell better, these newspapers are not good and interesting ones and sometimes are bad ones.

To renovate the press naturally should include the concern about making newspapers attractive, but this goal must not turn them into ordinary sales items, nor lower their political role. On the other hand, we should not think that just because the press is running a form of revolutionary activity, we have to go back to the old-fashioned, dull, and formalistic mode of journalism and then say it is good. The press within the framework of renovation must be correct, serious-minded, and at the

same time good and attractive in order to properly fulfill its function in the new revolutionary period.

For newspaper readers in particular and for the people in general, to be informed is a very great need. This is spiritual food that they should not lack, mostly in the era of information explosion today. The people demand that they be given information about politics, economy, society, natural science, social science, technology, and theory and practice, and be told about events taking place in the country and in the world and matters that indirectly or directly have to do with their life. They want to be informed in order to improve their knowledge and to widen their thinking. The people will find it difficult to properly organize their life and to fully develop the role of the country's masters unless they are fully informed about all necessary things. We have a very good slogan, "The people know, the people discuss, the people do things, the people control," which indicates that the people's knowledge is the first prerequisite before they can discuss, do things, and control. The people's knowledge involves nothing else but information, which newspapers are the most important means to provide. Information therefore must be rich, varied, and multidimensional and come from the top and from the bottom. Information cannot be considered good if it is poor, monotonous, duplicate and repetitious, and monodimensional, and tells things that readers do not need to know or know before reading and hearing about it. It is considered even worse if it is not accurate, or it is colored pink and exaggerated, or it blackens the truth or fabricates things. Information also means to make public facts and events; therefore, we should not create many "prohibited entry zones" and "no trespassing" areas, but certainly we cannot make everything public, for we still have things considered part of the national secret that must not be made public and things that do not deserve being made public or need not be made public. Information can be useful only when it is selective and aimed in the right direction. All pieces of information, no matter in what form they are given, no matter what contents they have, or whether they deal with good or bad things, interesting or dull events, domestic or foreign affairs, and present or historical facts, must always reach the goal of helping readers to have correct knowledge and to have correct thinking and action. They must indirectly or directly help everybody to distinguish between the right and the wrong, the good and the bad, to adhere to reason, and to aim at truth. All information that is allowed to float and to suit one's convenience is irresponsible and harmful.

The press is the tool of the struggle for truth and as such never can remain indifferent toward news events without expressing its timely attitude and discerning the true and the false, the right and the wrong. It cannot fold its arms in the face of the enemy forces' propaganda and distortion, nor remain neutral regarding the masses' wrong conception. It must always defend the revolutionary principles and fight the arguments that go against such principles. It must attentively listen to the masses,

reflect their aspirations and ideas, and protect their legitimate interests but avoid being demagogic and pushing them toward doing wrong things; instead, it must help them to distinguish between right and wrong and to think and act on the basis of a thorough understanding of truth. If the press does not have a high fighting spirit, it is not a revolutionary one.

To encourage discussion also is a sign of the fighting spirit of the press. Discussion is aimed at distinguishing between the right and the wrong, and reaching a higher degree of truth. It is discussion in the spirit of being frank and constructive. It is regrettable that while in our newspapers we seem to have almost no active, serious, and interesting discussion, there appears the kind of discussion that really is personal attack, personal criticism, abusive language, and denouncement of trivial matters. As the masses' forum newspapers should include discussion, but on the other hand they should not, in the name of freedom of discussion, disseminate distorted views, wrong political tendencies, and even dark schemes without criticizing, correcting, and drawing conclusions from them.

To praise the good and to criticize the bad, which we recently have often said it is to mention exemplary deeds and to fight negative aspects, also is to reflect the fighting spirit of the press. It also is to nurture what is good and new, and to abolish and prevent what is backward and decadent, with the final purpose being to move the revolutionary undertaking forward. The hard-core requirement for praise or criticism is that the stories mentioned must be accurate and have a clear-cut purpose. Any invented or distorted stories, whether they are colored pink or blackened, are harmful. Any backing out from the fight against negative aspects, as well as any superficial and deceitful act in the effort to discover the good or the bad, will not only fail to create a correct public opinion to support the good and to condemn the bad but also make the press lose the masses' confidence.

We should never think that to renovate the press is to make the press which has been the party's tool become the masses' tool for struggle, nor understand that as newspapers are the masses' forum, they need to raise the "independent" voice and to criticize. To have such an understanding also is to be wrong and one-sided. The revolutionary press first of all must reflect the unanimity between the party and the masses and serve as a bridge between them. Through the press the party brings the revolutionary truth to the masses, and educates and mobilizes the masses in the struggle for victory of the revolution. And also through the press the party receives from the masses the constructive voice, the voices that support agreement, the creative ideas that contribute to perfecting and enriching the party's positions and policies, and even the voices that offer truthful and frank criticisms in order that the party could correct mistakes and shortcomings in time.

The key element that determines the success of the renovation of the press is the body of journalists. Journalists cannot be someone other than a cadre doing the party's mass-proselyting work. In this work they know how to both educate and mobilize the masses and attentively listen to the masses. Therefore, the first requirement is that journalists have the party's spirit, i.e., sound political abilities and correct ideological stand and views. They must have high fighting spirit, know how to defend the revolutionary truth, not stay indifferent and neutral toward wrong and distorted views and conception, not tolerate bad manners and habits, nor overlook the enemy forces' hostile arguments and maneuvers. They have the work behavior of those who are close to the people, know how to attentively listen to them, understand their feelings and aspirations, and can discover in time the problems that arise from the reality of the revolutionary movement so as to recommend the ways to resolve them. Journalists must be the people who have revolutionary morality and qualities; are honest, loyal, frank, and incorruptible; refuse to be opportunistic or to bend to anybody's wishes; and never "bend one's pen" because of personal motives and interests. Naturally, they cannot lack talent and knowledge and constantly need to improve their professional skills and knowledge, but talent and knowledge are to help them to properly fulfill the function of pen-holding combatants.

Like the renovation of the country, the renovation of the press must be carried out in accordance with confirmed principles. These principles set the direction for press activities and ensure that our press always remain revolutionary and never fall into the muddy puddle of the bourgeois press. However, to renovate the press always demands creative findings aimed at making it more attractive to readers. Although we have traveled a rather long distance in the journalistic undertaking and have acquired considerable experience, to renovate the press in the period of building socialism and defending the fatherland still is a new job. There are so many principles and directions that have been proposed as criteria for renovation of the press, but to apply them is far from simple. How do we disseminate information which is rich and varied and yet remains within the set direction? How do we conduct discussion to make it useful and yet free and frank? How do we struggle against negative aspects in an effective manner? How do we carry out freedom of the press and also how can we promote journalists' and editors' initiative, dynamism, creativity, and sense of responsibility? Those are some of a series of questions which may be easy to define as principles but are far from simple in terms of application. They need to be included in the agendas for discussion and for gaining experience of journalists' clubs and associations and of the leadership of the press as well. Any reluctance and backing out will make the press easily go back to the period of "illustrations" and dull "understanding," but on the other hand any premature acts of renovation that go beyond the revolutionary principles of the proletarian

press also will prevent the press from fulfilling its difficult and noble task in the building of socialism and defense of the fatherland.

BIOGRAPHIC

Biographic Information on Vietnamese Personalities

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[Editorial Report] The following information on Vietnamese personalities has been extracted from Vietnamese language sources published in Hanoi, unless otherwise indicated. Asterisk indicates that this is the first known press reference to this individual functioning in this capacity.

Pham Binh [PHAMJ BINHJ]

*SRV Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Belgium; on 13 September 1989 he presented his credentials to King Baudoin of Belgium. (NHAN DAN 20 Sep 89 p 4)

Nguyen Ba [NGUYEENX BAS]

*Member of the CPV Central Committee; secretary of the CPV Committee, Nghe Tinh Province; recently he attended a seminar on Uncle Ho and Nghe Tinh homeland. (NHAN DAN 18 Sep 89 p 1)

Do Ba But [DOOX BAS BUTS], Col, deceased

Member of the CPV; former deputy chief of staff of the Artillery Branch; born on 20 August 1928 in Tan Minh Village, Soc Son District, Hanoi, he died on 31 August 1989 at the 108th Military Hospital. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 1 Sep 89 p 4)

Nguyen Co Thach [NGUYEENX COW THACHJ]

Vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, Minister of Foreign Affairs; on 26, 27 September 1989 he welcomed a Philippine delegation visiting Vietnam. (NHAN DAN 30 Sep 89 p 4)

Nguyen Hong Thang [NGUYEENX HOONGF THAWNGS]

*Deputy director of the People's Voice Radio in Ho Chi Minh City; on 19 September 1989 he was selected as a candidate for the Ho Chi Minh City People's Council, 4th term. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 21 Sep 89 p 1)

Nguyen Huu Tho [NGUYEENX HUWUX THOJ], Lawyer

Director of DAI DOAN KET newspaper; his name appeared on page 1 of the cited source. (DAI DOAN KET 15-21 Aug 89 p 1)

Nguyen Van Tinh [NGUYEENX VAWN TINHF]

*Director of the public security forces, Bac Thai Province; his letter on a legal matter in Bac Thai was published in the cited source. (GIAO VIEN NHAN DAN No 40, 2 Oct 89 p 2)

Nguyen Dinh Phuong [NGUYEENX DINHF PHUWOWNG]

*SRV Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in Denmark; on 21 September 1989 he presented his credentials to the Queen of Denmark. (NHAN DAN 25 Sep 89 p 4)

Ngoc Thach [NGOCJ THACHJ]

*Editor-in-chief of DAI DOAN KET newspaper; his name was printed on page 1 of the cited source. (DAI DOAN KET 15-21 Aug 89 p 1)

Tran Dinh Quang [TRAANF DINHF QUANGR] Col, deceased

Member of the CPV; former deputy commander of the 979th Group, 5th MR; born in 1926 in Binh Dinh Province, he died on 2 October 1989. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 7 Oct 89 p 4)

To Quyen [TOO QUYENF], Colonel

Head of Traffic Police and Public Order Department; his name and position were mentioned in article on protecting railway communication which was published in the cited source. (GIAO THONG VAN TAI No 38, 28 Sep 89 p 4)

Pham Van Lang [PHAM VAWN LANGJ], *Colonel

*SRV military attache in Cambodia; on 18 September 1989 he welcomed an SRV delegation visiting Cambodia. (NHAN DAN 19 Sep 89 p 1)

To Ky [TOO KYS], *Lt. General

On 22 September 1989 he attended the 44th anniversary of the Nam Bo Resistance (23 Sep 45 - 23 Sep 89). (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 23 Sep 89 p 1)

Tran Khac Minh [TRAANF PHAWCS MINH]

*Vice chairman of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, Song Be Province; his article on improving the Front's work was published in the cited source. (DAI DOAN KET 15-21 Aug 89 p 2)

Vu Huu Ngoan [VUX HUWUX NGOANJ]

Member of the Hanoi CPV Standing Committee; head of the Propaganda and Training Committee, Hanoi Municipality; on 24 October 1989 he attended the 32d anniversary of HANOI MOI newspaper. (HANOI MOI 23 Oct 89 p 1)

Nguyen Van Hanh [NGUYEENX VAWN HANH]

Member of the Standing Committee of the Ho Chi Minh City CPV Committee; *chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City Fatherland Front; on 26 September 1989 he attended the welcoming ceremony to SRV troops coming back from Cambodia. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 27 Sep 89 p 1)

Le Ngoc Hien [LEE NGOCJ HIEENF], Colonel General

On 18 September 1989 he was in an SRV delegation visiting Cambodia. (NHAN DAN 19 Sep 89 p 1)

Do Quang Hung [DOOX QUANG HUWNG], *Major General

*Commander of 779 Front; recently he welcomed a Cambodian delegation visiting Vietnamese troops preparing to leave Cambodia. (NHAN DAN 19 Sep 89 p 1)

Nguyen Thoi Hung [NGUYEENX THOWIS HUWNG], Lt. General, previously recorded as Nguyen Thoi Bung

Member of the CPV Central Committee; commander of the 7th MR; on 28 September 1989 he attended the welcoming ceremony for SRV troops returning from Cambodia. (NHAN DAN 29 Sep 89 pp 1, 4)

Le Thanh Cong [LEE THANHF COONG], *Major General

Deputy commander of the 7th MR; on 23 September 1989 he attended an exhibit in Ho Chi Minh City on Vietnam-Cambodia solidarity. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 24 Sep 89 p 1)

Bach Hung Dao [BACHJ HUWNG DAOF]

Deputy secretary of the CPV Committee; Nghe Tinh Province; recently he gave a speech at a seminar on Uncle Ho and Nghe Tinh. (NHAN DAN 18 Sep 89 p 1)

Le Hieu Dang [LEE HIEEUS DAWNGF]

Vice chairman of Ho Chi Minh City's Fatherland Front; his name and position were mentioned in an article on preparing for the People's Council election. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 21 Sep 89 p 1)

Le Hai [LEE HAI], Lt. General

On 18 September 1989, he was in an SRV delegation visiting Cambodia. (NHAN DAN 19 Sep 89 p 1)

Nguyen Thoi Bung [NGUYEENX THOWIS BUWNG], Lt General

Commander of 7th MR; on 22 September 1989 he attended the 44th anniversary of the Nam Bo Resistance and reported on the SRV troop withdrawal from Cambodia. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 23 Sep 89 p 1)

Nguyen Can [NGUYEENX CAN]

*Ambassador; *deputy head of SRV UN delegation in New York; on 17 September 1989, he met with a group of Vietnam veterans. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 22 Sep 89 p 4)

Nguyen Ba Chuc [NGUYEENX BAS CHUCS]

*Deputy director of Import-Export Department, Ministry of External Economic Relations; his name and position were mentioned in an article on cement production and export published in the cited source. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 19 Aug 89 p 2)

Nguyen Dinh Chuc [NGUYEENX DINHF CHUCS], Major General

*Commander of 979 Front; recently he welcomed a Cambodian delegation visiting Vietnamese troops getting ready to leave Cambodia. (NHAN DAN 19 Sep 89 p 1)

Tran Van Tra [TRAANF VAWN TRAF], Colonel General

On 22 September 1989 he attended the 44th anniversary of the Nam Bo Resistance (23 Sep 45 - 23 Sep 89). (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 23 Sep 89 p 1)

Tran Trac [TRAANF TRACS] *Maj Gen

*Deputy director of the Rear Services General Department; on 27 May 1989, he presented an award to the 354th Military Hospital for its consistent work performance. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 30 May 89 p 1)

Bui Thanh Van [BUIF THANH VAAN], *Lt General

Deputy commander of 7th MR; on 28 September 1989 he visited 479 Front. (NHAN DAN 4 Oct 89 p 1)

Le Uan [LEE UAANR], *Major General

Commander of 579 Front; recently he welcomed a Cambodian delegation visiting Vietnamese troops preparing to leave Cambodia. (NHAN DAN 19 Sep 89 p 1)

Dao Tung [DAOF TUNGF]

Secretary general of the Vietnam Journalists Association; his article on the Vietnamese press was published in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 11 Oct 89 p 3)

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